

School place planning: Forward view 2023



Education Sufficiency and Access

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Contents

	Page
Introduction	4
Milton Keynes	
Planned growth	5
Pupil demographics	6
Getting the balance right	7
Reducing school places	8
Provision of new school places	
Funding to commission new school places	9
Proposals to make significant changes (maintained)	10
Proposals to make significant changes (academies)	11
Establishing new provision	12
Current plans for new provision	13
Special Educational Needs Provision	15
Planning areas and opportunities	
Planning areas	17
Milton Keynes overview	18
North planning area	20
North West planning area	22
Central planning area	24
South planning area	26
South West planning area	28
South East planning area	30
Catholic provision	32
Summary of future development	34
Additional information	
Annex A, School place planning methodology	35
Annex B, Birth Data	39
Annex C, Types of schools	40
Annex D, Post 16 provision	41
Annex E, Diversity of pupil population	42
Annex F, School preferences	43
Annex G, All schools in Milton Keynes	44

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Introduction

This document sets out the local authority's main legal duties and powers in relation to current and future school place provision. It is intended for use as a guidance document to support both the local authority and education providers in detailing where places are available and in planning where additional places may need to be secured in the future.

As a result of significant planned demographic growth and despite substantial capital investment in numerous schemes over the past few years, this document continues to show that there is a need to grow places in a number of areas across the borough in future years. It sets out the process for expanding existing provision or opening new provision to address these gaps and lists the areas and schemes where we are planning to secure additional places.

The information provided in this document may change, not least as a result of policy or funding announcements by the Department for Education.

Comments and feedback about this document are welcomed and can be sent to sufficiencyandaccess@milton-keynes.gov.uk.

Please note – it is not a statutory requirement to produce this document. However, we believe it is helpful to the local and national education system that this data is openly shared. The accuracy of school place planning is dependent on a multitude of demographic and economic factors, all of which are beyond our control and are volatile. We therefore ask the reader to accept that all projections provided are a best estimate based on current data at the time of publication.

Milton Keynes

Planned growth

Plan:MK, which was adopted in 2019, replaced the remaining planning policies kept from the Milton Keynes Local Plan (adopted December 2005) and the Milton Keynes Core Strategy, and became part of the Development Plan to be used in the determination of planning applications within the borough.

Plan:MK is the new Local Plan for Milton Keynes up to 2031 and sets out the vision and development strategy for the future of the Borough. Plan:MK will deliver a minimum of 26,500 net dwellings across the Borough of Milton Keynes over the period 2016-2031.

For all Strategic Urban Extensions listed within Plan:MK, the indicative education needs have been detailed. It is also beneficial for all parties to establish a school place planning strategy during the master planning stage of these sites so that the service requirements do not impact on viability at a later stage.

There is significant planned total development across Milton Keynes with over 15,500 homes scheduled to be delivered over the next eight years, with a significant proportion of this being delivered in our new development areas of Milton Keynes. In order to support these communities growing it is right and important that that new local school places are delivered within these areas in line with the additional demand the development brings as it builds out across the years,

Key Statistics

- ❖ Population expected to increase by over 35,000 in the next 10 years
- ❖ Proposed “East M1” and “South East MK” developments set to deliver up to 8000 homes with school sites identified
- ❖ Over 15,500 new homes projected to be delivered within the next 8 years

Pupil demographics

Since 2016, the pupil population has increased by 4191 children which represents a 9% increase. There was a significant drop in births in 2017/18 of approximately 230 births (Annex B). Births have continued to fall year on year, following the national trend of a fall in birth rates. However, in 2020/21, Milton Keynes saw a small increase in the number of births (3%). It is possible that even with pupil yield from new housing that the pupil cohort may plateau over the coming years.

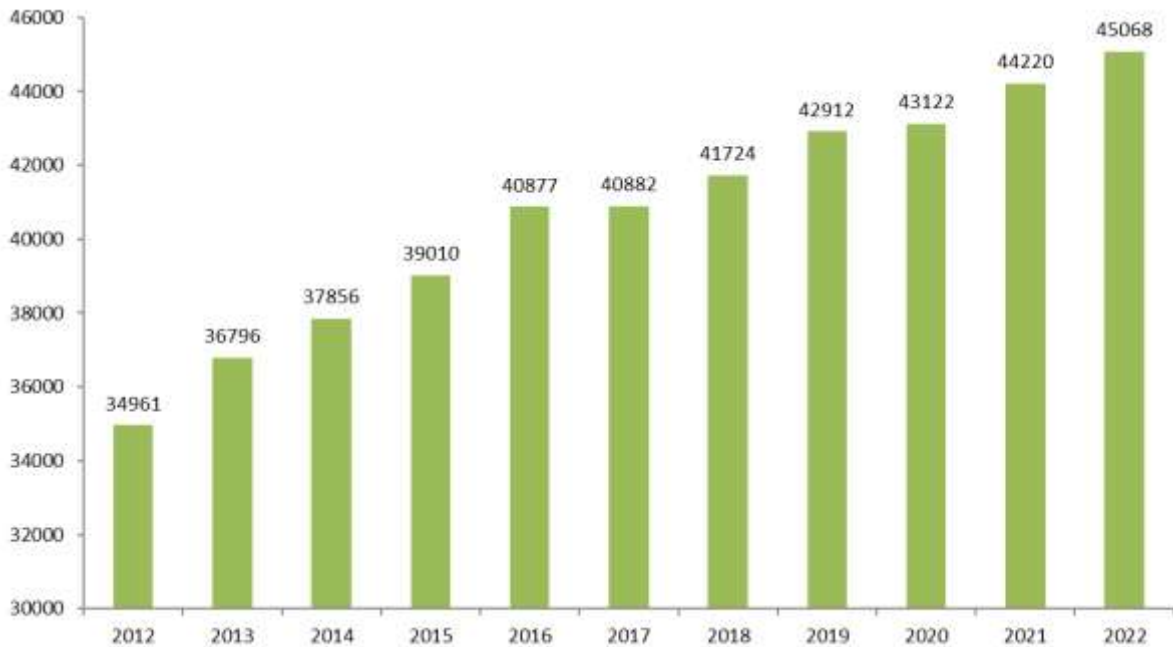


Figure 1: Total number of primary and secondary mainstream pupils, 2012 to 2022 (excluding post-16, special schools and alternative education). Source: School Census Oct 2022

The table below shows that recent growth has focused on primary year groups, particularly Year 5 and Year 6. The growth in the primary phase will naturally progress through to the secondary phase in the coming years.

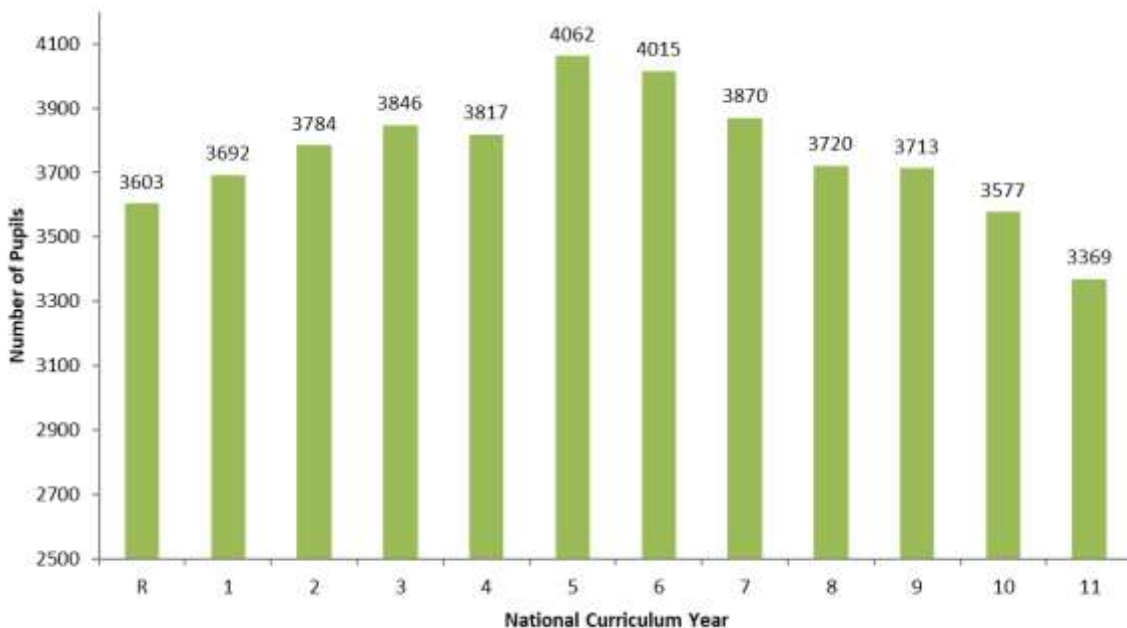


Figure 2: Total number of pupils in each year group, October 2022 (excluding post-16, special schools and alternative education). Source: School Census October 2022

Getting the balance right

In a system full of contextual changes, many of which are not controlled by the council, there are a number of factors that influence strategic thinking such as:

- Housing market and the number of homes sold
- When families move into homes and therefore apply for school places
- Number of children living in each home
- Phasing, timing and alterations to housing developments
- Brexit
- Covid
- Economics; recessions
- Global situations; Ukraine, Syrian, Afghan refugees and Hong Kong nationals
- Birth rates both nationally and locally
- Parental preferences
- Ofsted ratings
- Admission responsibilities; maintained schools and own admission authority schools
- Changes to being an importer versus an exporter of pupils
- Neighbouring local authority activities
- Central Government agenda and policies

The above plus many other factors mean the 'right' number of places for the medium to long term future is challenging to predict.

Whilst a shortfall in provision would result in the Council not being able to meet its statutory duty and emergency plans being put in place to address this, a surplus in provision brings other risks and challenges such as financial sustainability.

Providing extra places at schools whilst required can result in children moving out of their existing schools into these places, (sometimes for no clear reason), precluding those yet to move into the area from taking these places, and destabilising the existing schools. Such mobility is not supportive of improving outcomes for children. Further to this, the capital resources provided to the council to ensure sufficiency of school places are limited. It would therefore be inappropriate to invest them in creating 'empty places' in the system.

This fine balance is further complicated by the need to grow places in the growth areas of Milton Keynes whilst simultaneously working with any schools as appropriate across Milton Keynes to contract in more developed areas with schools that may be experiencing a reduction in demand due to a reduction in birth rates or parental preference.

It is also critical that places are available not only at the typical point of entry (e.g. Year R for September start) but also 'in year' for those needing to access school places outside of typical points. Not all unfilled school places can be considered 'surplus' either. There is a requirement for a level of spare school capacity being necessary to not only accommodate children 'in-year' but to also provide suitable flexibility for unexpected influxes of children and expressions of parental preference. Government recommends that it is reasonable for authorities to aim for between five and ten percent surplus to allow for this adequate flexibility.

Getting the balance of places available right is therefore key.

Reducing school places

It is recognised that there is a current decline in pupil numbers within established communities and a significant drop in birth rates since 2014 when pupil numbers previously peaked. This means that there is a significant surplus at primary level whilst the secondary sector is beginning to feel the previous primary pupil number increase. The council's strategy is to proactively work in partnership with those schools in Milton Keynes that are experiencing a decline to see how they can be supported to stabilise their pupil numbers.

This is typically achieved through a permanent PAN change, PAN cap implementation or a combination of both.

Permanent PAN reductions are implemented following engagement with the council and the completion of an admission arrangements consultation and reduces the number of children the school will be required to admit to at the point of entry.

PAN caps are a flexible option available to schools that can be promptly implemented or removed at any time in partnership and following engagement with the council and can be applied individually to particular year groups and limits the number of pupils that will be admitted to any existing year group.

To further support schools in their future planning, the projected demographic demand data is shared with schools each year. This includes demand regarding their own catchment area, school liaison group and across the city. All schools are encouraged to engage with the Sufficiency team if they are concerned about their future pupil numbers so that the team can understand how best they can be supported.

Since 2018, the Sufficiency team have worked with a number of schools to reduce PANs permanently, removing 357 places so far at the point of entry to the school (Year R) and 110 places so far at the point of entry to secondary school (Year 7).

Since the recent announcement by the Schools Adjudicator confirming the ability to implement PAN caps for in-year admissions, the service has also worked with a number of schools over the past 18 months to introduce PAN caps to support the current reduction in demand. So far over 1300 places have been removed from current year groups in the primary phase and over 500 places so far have been removed from current year groups in the secondary phase.

However, there is still more work to do to ensure that schools across Milton Keynes remain sustainable during the period of reduced demand. If you are a school and would like to know more about reducing school places please get in contact at sufficiencyandaccess@milton-keynes.gov.uk.

Provision of new school places

The Education Act 1996 legislated that local authorities should have regard to sections 13, 13A and 14 of the Education Act 1996 which require local authorities to: ensure that sufficient primary, secondary and further education is available to meet the needs of their population; ensure that their education functions are exercised with a view to promoting high standards; ensuring fair access to opportunity for education and learning, and promote the fulfilment of learning potential. **This duty still stands.**

This section outlines the legal framework around the delivery of that duty.

Despite the current diversity of the school system, including the more recent addition of non-maintained academies and free schools, the council continues to be responsible for ensuring that every child living in Milton Keynes is able to access a school place.

However, this duty sits alongside the increasing number of self-governed academies, multi-academy trusts and free schools and therefore the role of the council is to work in partnership with all education providers.

If, as part of its planning to fulfil this duty, the council identifies that there is a significant change to a school required, such as expansion or change of age range, it is required to follow separate legal processes, depending on the type of school to which the change would apply.

Funding to commission new school places

To support the sufficiency statutory duty, the council is allocated 'Basic Need' funding. This is allocated to the council for all types of school, including academies. The amount provided is generated by the completion of the School Capacity Collection (SCAP) which each council is required to complete annually in July.

When additional school places are opened, the local Schools Forum is able to determine that a proportion of the Dedicated Schools Grant is retained centrally in order to revenue fund those places in advance of the school's budget. This enables schools to resource new places in a way which is timely, effective and maximises the chance of those places being of high quality.

Local authorities are expected to negotiate financial contributions (known as Section 106 or Planning Obligations) from developers where new housing will mean that additional school places are required. Those contributions could be any or a combination of finance, land or buildings.

Proposals to make significant changes (maintained schools)

The following examples may be deemed to be a 'significant change':

- Enlargement of premises or expansion onto an additional site (or satellite site)
- Reducing pupil's numbers in mainstream schools
- Change of age range or adding or removing a sixth form
- Closing an additional site or transfer to a new site
- Changes of category
- Establishing, removing or altering SEN provision or changing types of need catered for by a special school
- Boarding provision

For proposals involving a significant change to existing maintained schools (community, voluntary controlled, voluntary aided and foundation) the council will need to work with the school(s) concerned and, if a proposal is agreed by the governing body, the council can propose this change itself. In so doing the council must have regard for the Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance '[Making significant changes to maintained schools](#)', October 2018.

These regulations are accompanied by '[Opening and closing maintained schools](#)', November 2019 which clearly outlines what must legally take place. The statutory process has four stages:

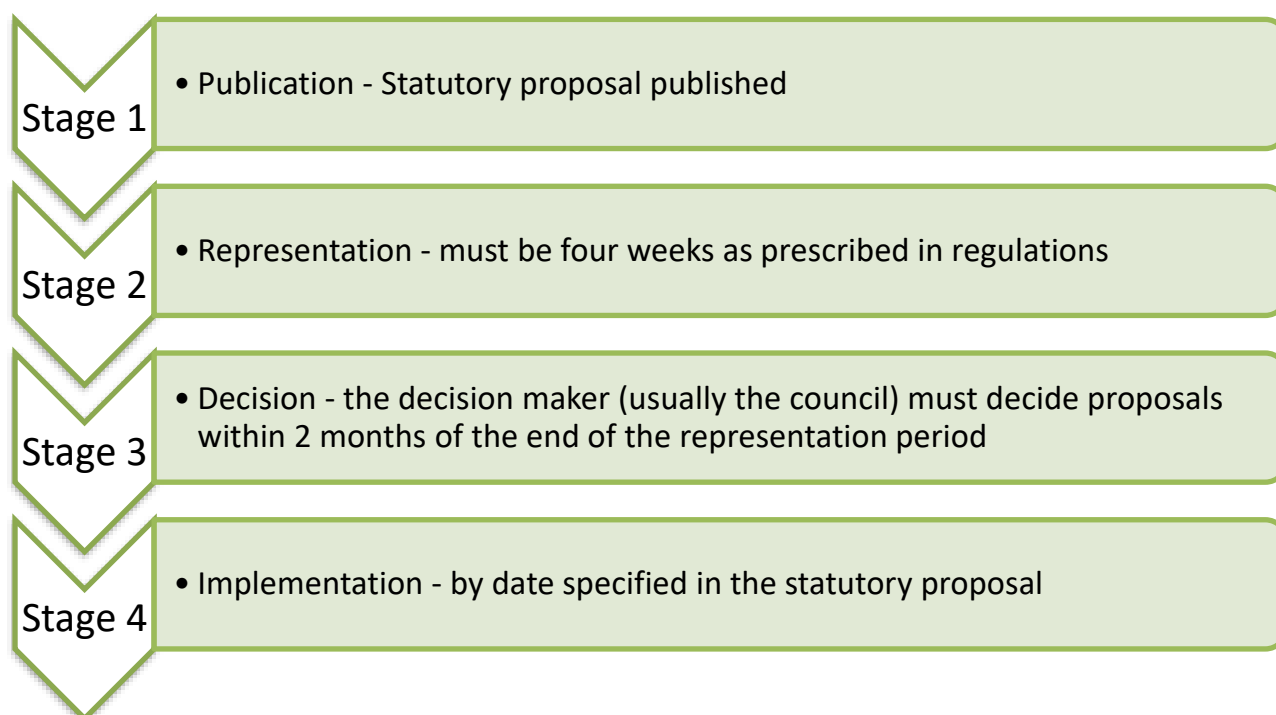


Figure 3: Statutory process for making prescribed changes to maintained schools

There is not a prescribed 'pre-publication' consultation period for significant changes but the guidance is clear that there is a strong expectation on councils to informally consult with interested parties in developing their proposal prior to publication. It is best practice to consult during term time.

Proposals to make significant changes (academies)

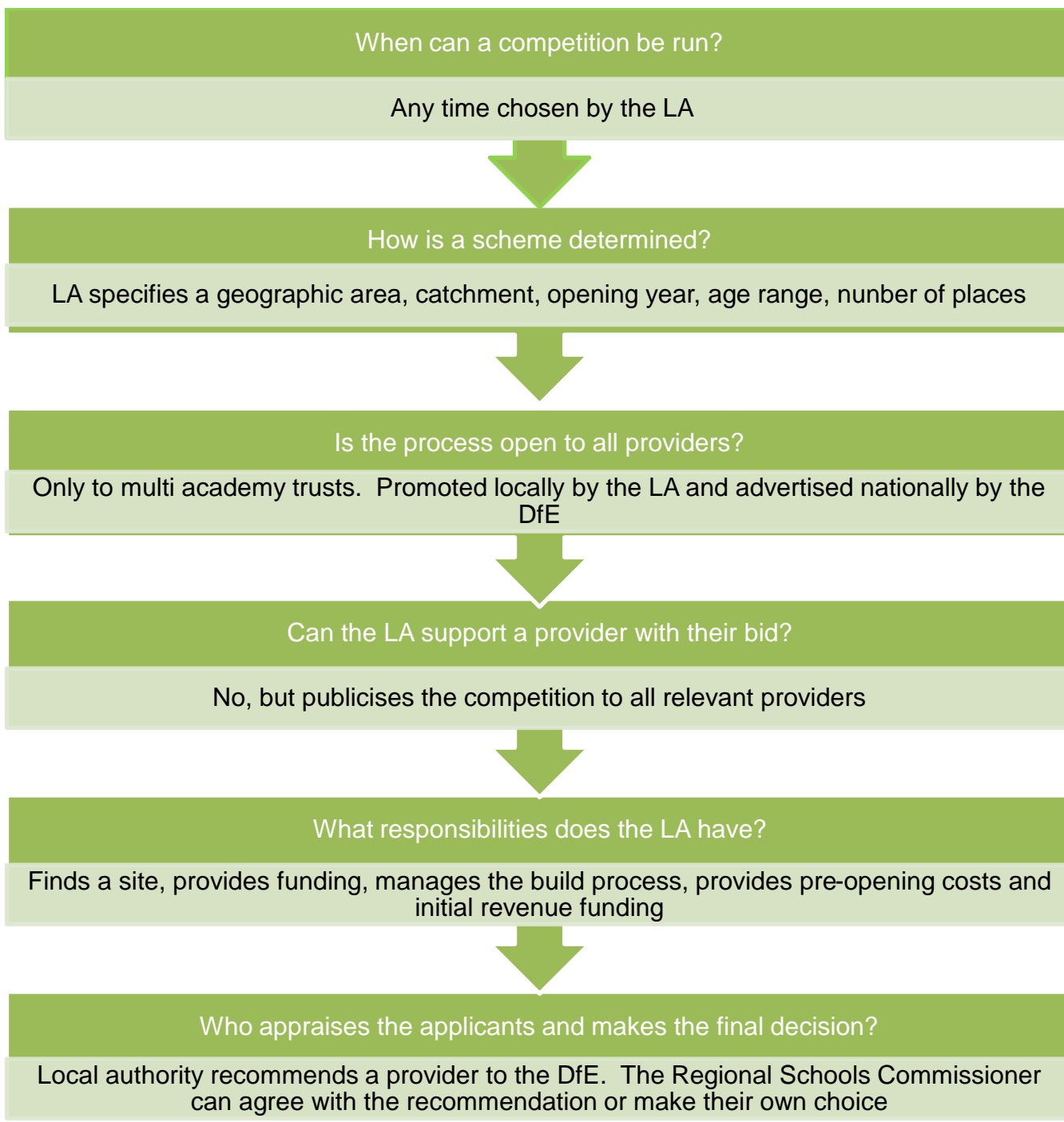
For changes involving a significant change to an existing academy the council will need to work with the academy concerned but, if a proposal is agreed, the council is not able to propose this itself. Instead the academy must have regard for the DfE guidance '[Making significant changes to an open academy and closure by mutual agreement](#)', January 2022. This DfE guidance document provides advice to academy trusts on what they need to do to make a significant change (which in general has an impact on the number, type and / or location of school places) to an open academy and whether their proposal will need to follow the 'fast track' application or will require a full business case to be submitted to the Regional Schools Commissioner.

Establishing new provision

When there is a need for establishing a new school in the local area, the local authority will run a free school presumption competition whereby new school proposers (academy trusts) are able to submit an application.

The illustration below shows the process of establishing a new school.

Presumption Competition



Current plans for new provision

This section outlines the current schemes in place to meet demand for new school places in Milton Keynes and clarifies the proposed governance where determined, the total number of places that will be provided by each scheme and the target opening date. Please note that for schools opening in new residential developments, it is recommended that places are opened on a phased basis in alignment with housing completions.

Primary school places – confirmed schemes

Location	Calverton Lane, Western Expansion Area
Name	Watling Primary School
Type	New school
Size	630 primary places
Governance	Denbigh Alliance
Date	2023
Status	Build underway

Primary school places – unconfirmed schemes (these schemes are planned but may be subject to planning permission or the statutory consultation process)

Location	Tickford Fields, Newport Pagnell
Name	To be confirmed
Type	New school
Size	420 primary places
Governance	Subject to free school competition
Date	To be confirmed
Status	Subject to planning permission

Location	Eaton Leys
Name	To be confirmed
Type	New school
Size	210 primary places
Governance	Subject to free school competition
Date	To be confirmed
Status	Subject to planning permission

Location	South East Milton Keynes
Name	To be confirmed (SE Primary 2)
Type	New school
Size	630 primary places
Governance	Subject to free school competition
Date	To be confirmed
Status	Subject to planning permission

Location	Primary 4, Western Expansion Area
Name	To be confirmed
Type	New school
Size	630 primary places
Governance	Subject to free school competition
Date	To be confirmed
Status	Subject to planning permission

Location	Primary 2, 3 and 4, East M1
Name	To be confirmed
Type	New schools
Size	Up to 1470 primary places
Governance	Subject to free school competition
Date	To be confirmed
Status	Subject to planning permission

All-through school places – Unconfirmed schemes (these schemes are planned but may be subject to planning permission or the statutory consultation process)

Location	East of M1
Name	To be confirmed
Type	New school
Size	630 primary and 1500 secondary places
Governance	Subject to free school competition
Date	To be confirmed
Status	Subject to planning permission

Location	South East Milton Keynes
Name	To be confirmed
Type	New school
Size	630 primary and 1050 secondary places
Governance	Subject to free school competition
Date	To be confirmed
Status	Subject to planning permission

Special educational needs provision

The needs of children and young people with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) are met through a combination of mainstream, mainstream with enhanced resources (known as departments) and special school provision.

Stage	Mainstream	Special	Total
Early Years	0	5	5
Foundation	29	14	43
Key Stage 1	130	45	175
Key Stage 2	340	265	605
Key Stage 3	247	295	542
Key Stage 4	145	184	329
16+ Years	21	138	159
Total	912	946	1858

Figure 6: Children with an EHCP (October 2022 School Census)

There are six special schools in Milton Keynes:

School	Age Range	Year Groups	Specialism
Romans Field	5 to 11	1 to 6	Social, emotional and mental health needs
Slated Row	4 to 19	R to 14	Specific learning difficulties
Stephenson Academy	11 to 19	6 to 14	Social, emotional and mental health needs
The Redway	2 to 19	N to 14	Profound and multiple difficulties
The Walnuts	4 to 19	R to 14	Social communication needs
White Spire	5 to 19	1 to 14	Specific learning difficulties

Figure 7: Summary of special school provision

As of October 2022, there were a total of 946 pupils attending the six special schools and alternative provision. Of that total, 884 lived in Milton Keynes and 62 lived in other local authority areas.

Place planning for the SEN sector

Currently 1.7% of Milton Keynes' children and young people are educated in dedicated specialist provision which includes special schools, SEN departments within mainstream schools and out of county provision. An incremental increase in demand is estimated for specialist provision year-on-year. There are two factors contributing to this; an increase in children requiring specialist provision as a result of increased complexity of need and a rise in the number of children and young people moving into Milton Keynes that require special school provision.

Despite continued growth across Milton Keynes, no new special school has been provided since Milton Keynes became a unitary authority (1997), apart from the new build of the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) provision at The Walnuts School, which was previously sited in Simpson. Additionally, special schools in Milton Keynes have expanded through the development of additional classrooms and redesign of spaces, a second site of Slated Row School has been developed at Kents Hill Park and Redway School has developed a transitions department in a separate building.

Assessing the capacity of the special school place system is complex. There is no 'net capacity' assessment available as there is for the rest of the maintained mainstream system and no PAN is required by law. Instead, conversations have taken place with each of the six special schools to determine the maximum number of children that each school could admit without prejudicing the quality of education. However, there are a growing number of children and young people with education, health and care plans (1641 in 2015/16 which has increased to 1858 in 2022).

A comprehensive analysis has taken place to ensure that there is clarity around the projected deficit of provision already in places to meet the needs of children with Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs) across Milton Keynes. The driver for this was to ensure that as many children with EHCPs as possible can have their needs met in local mainstream and special provision.

As a result of this analysis and projected increase in demand there are five clear proposals which were consulted upon to address these needs are which are being progressed:

- The development of a new primary and a new secondary complex needs school with a specialism in Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC)
- The development of additional Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) places at existing SEMH schools
- The development of a high complex needs provision
- The review and development of a communication and interaction resources provision
- The development of additional options for post 16 / 18 provision

Alongside this work there is a continued focus on inclusion of SEN children within mainstream schools that is vital in ensuring the right place is available for children and young people with the most complex needs. The requirement for SEN places will continue to be monitored and plans for any new places required will be implemented accordingly.

Planning areas and opportunities

For school place planning purposes, Milton Keynes is divided into the following planning areas:

- North planning area
- North West planning area
- Central planning area
- South planning area
- South West planning area
- South East planning area

Milton Keynes also accommodates six voluntary aided Catholic schools which attract pupils from across the borough and therefore do not sit within any of the planning areas.

A detailed list of schools included in each planning area can be found at Annex G.

The following analysis of the planning areas shows current and projected supply and demand of school places, with opportunities for new provision highlighted.

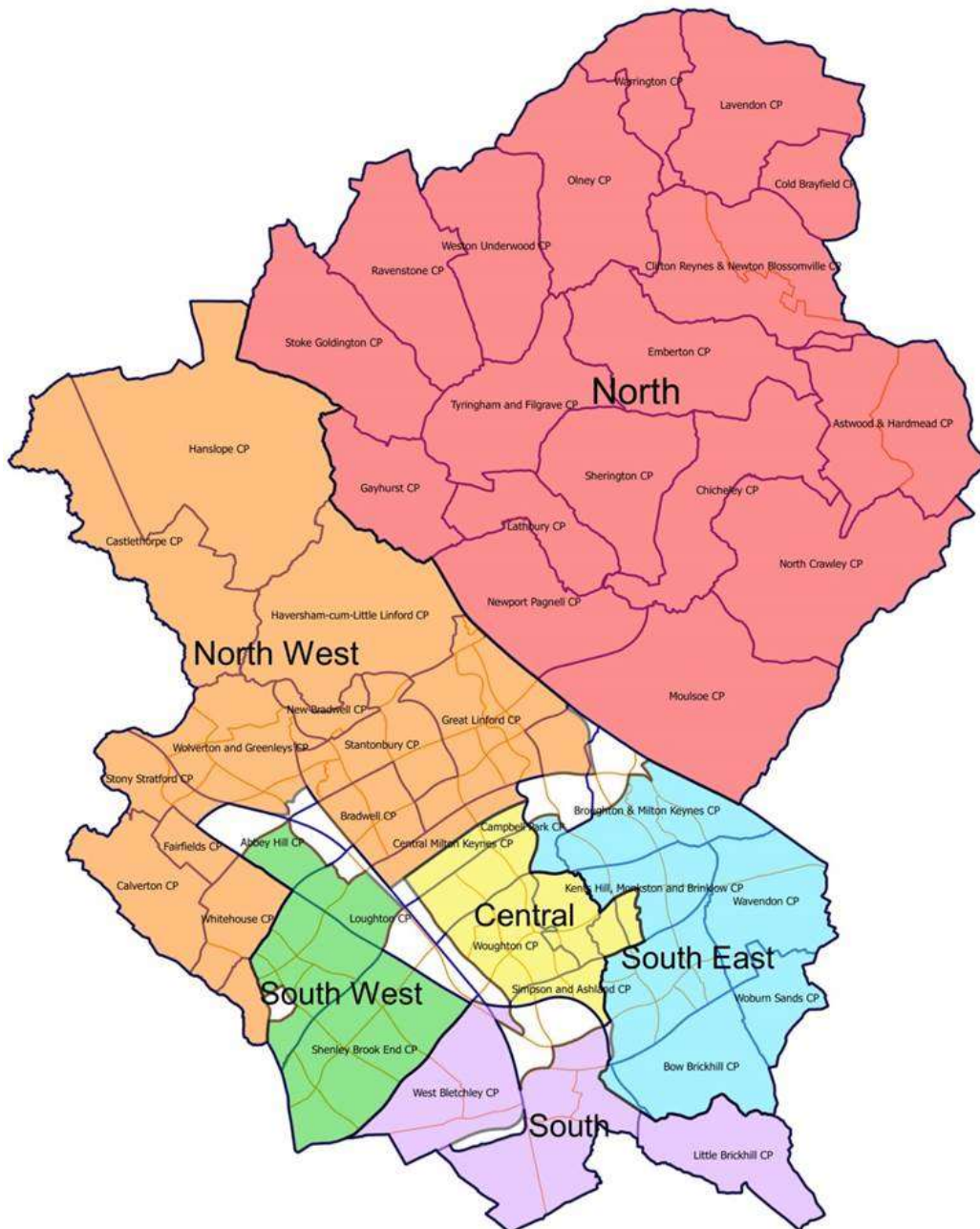
Please note:

- The Planned Admission Numbers (PAN) reflect those set in September 2022 and any increases in PAN from new schools or expansions are based on estimated timescales as detailed earlier in this document. These can be subject to change dependent on external factors such as development build out and planning permission.
- The total number of places required is based upon current numbers on roll and projected pupil yield from expected housing. The timing and pupil yield from new housing is also subject to change.
- Reception year projections are calculated using ONS birth data. Projections beyond 2025 are calculated using periodic ONS birth data trends.
- The total PAN from 2024 onwards are not yet set and subject to change, should it be decided that additional places are not required.

Data Sources

- October School Census 2022
- ONS Birth Data
- DfE National Statistics
- MKC 2022/23 Housing Schedule
- 2017 Pupil Yield Survey: [Pupil Product Ratio Study – Milton Keynes Council 2017](#)

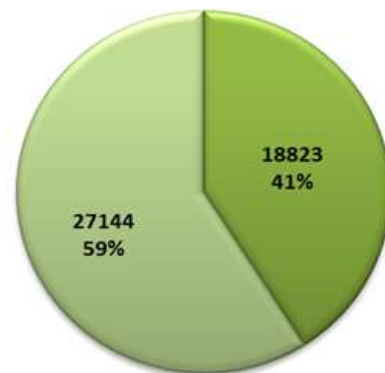
Milton Keynes



Key Statistics

- ❖ 45967 pupils reside and attend school in Milton Keynes (excluding nursery and post-16)
- ❖ 27 infant schools
- ❖ 11 junior schools
- ❖ 51 primary schools
- ❖ 12 secondary schools
- ❖ 3 all-through schools
- ❖ 6 special schools
- ❖ 2 alternative education provisions

Pupil Breakdown

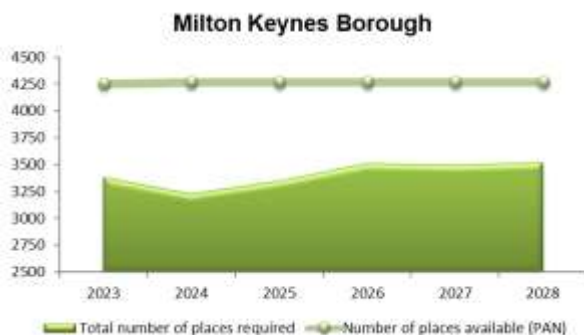


■ secondary ■ primary

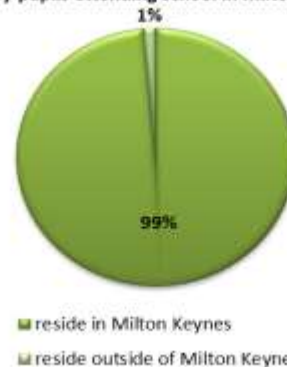
Primary Sector

Milton Keynes Overview: Reception year

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	4250	4265	4265	4265	4265	4265
Total number of places required for Year R	3381	3223	3345	3502	3493	3516
Balance of Places	869	1042	920	763	772	749



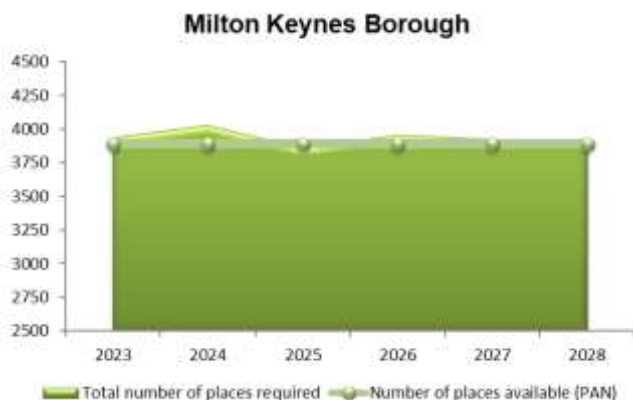
Primary pupils attending school in Milton Keynes



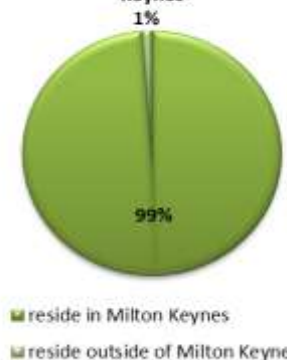
Secondary Sector

Milton Keynes Overview: Year 7

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	3890	3890	3890	3890	3890	3890
Total number of places required for Year 7	3936	4026	3856	3954	3920	3916
Balance of Places	-46	-136	34	-64	-30	-26
Surplus/Deficit (%)	-1.2%	-3.5%	0.9%	-1.7%	-0.8%	-0.7%



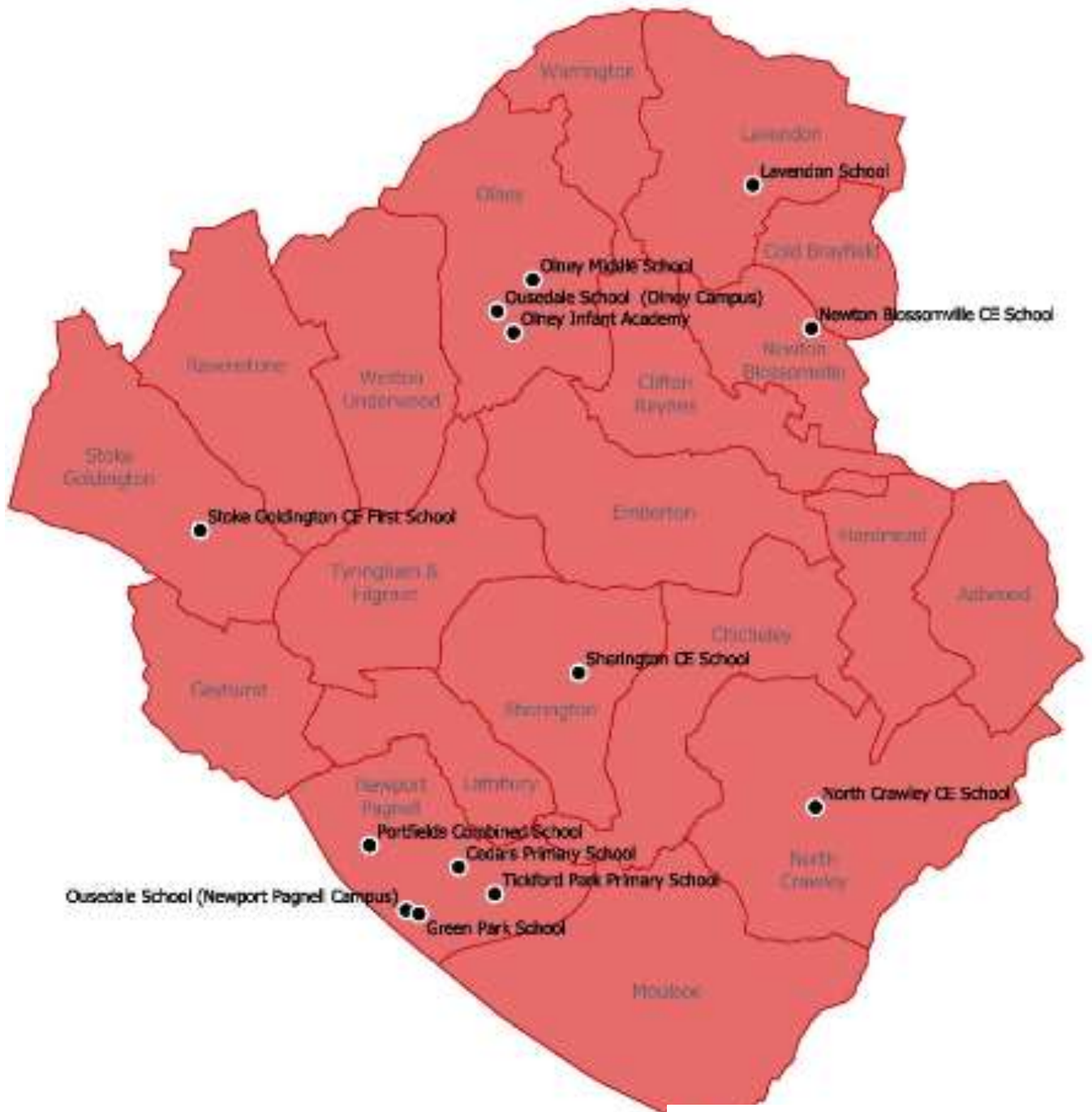
Secondary pupils attending school in Milton Keynes



Key points

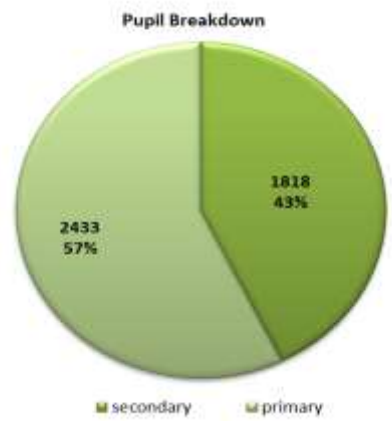
- ❖ The primary sector shows a significant fall in demand due to a dip in birth rates. Despite additional housing demand there will still be a significant surplus of primary places.
- ❖ Demand for additional secondary school places will grow but fluctuate over the years across the borough with demand peaking in 2024 as the primary bulge works its way into the secondary sector. The council is working with Milton Keynes Secondary Heads to release additional places as appropriate to avoid an over-supply of places

North Planning Area



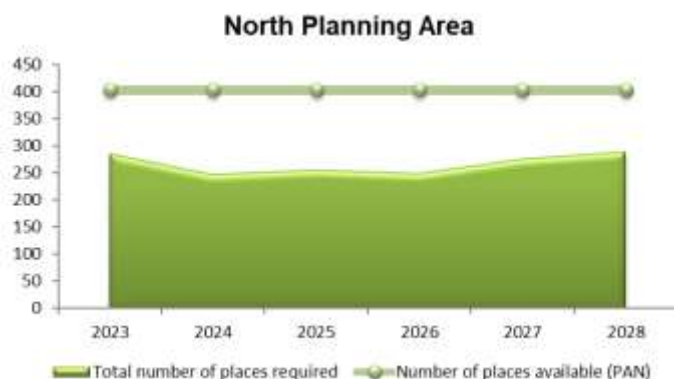
Key Statistics

- ❖ 4023 school pupils reside in this area (excluding post-16)
- ❖ 5 infant schools
- ❖ 1 junior school
- ❖ 5 primary schools
- ❖ 1 secondary school



Primary Sector

North Planning Area: Reception year						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	403	403	403	403	403	403
Total number of places required for Year R	285	247	255	248	275	289
Balance of Places	118	156	148	155	128	114



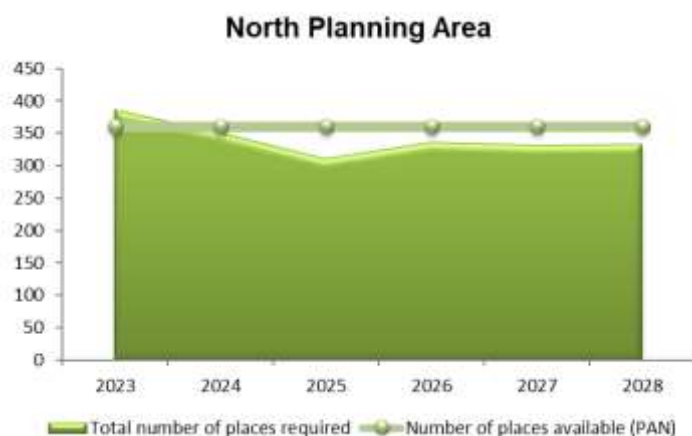
Resident primary pupils attending school in area



Attend school in planning area
Attend school out of planning area

Secondary Sector

North Planning Area: Year 7						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	360	360	360	360	360	360
Total number of places required for Year 7	386	351	311	335	331	333
Balance of Places	-26	9	49	25	29	27



Resident secondary pupils attending school in area



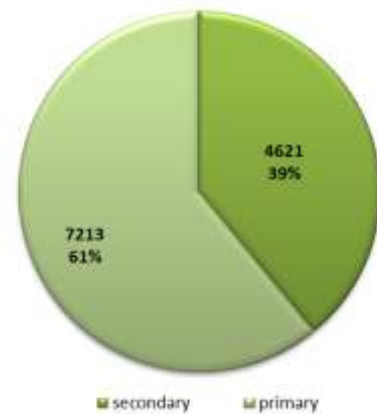
Attend school in planning area
Attend school out of planning area

Key points

- ❖ **Tickford Fields** – development site of up to 930 dwellings at Tickford Fields identified within the Newport Pagnell Neighbourhood Plan. A site for a new 2FE primary school has been secured within the site to support pressure from new housing. Current need and potential timing is being monitored and reviewed annually. Last review point in Summer 2022 determined that new provision would not be required before 2026 as there is capacity in nearby schools, subject to development buildout and projections.
- ❖ **East of M1** – a development consisting of up to 5000 dwellings planned



Pupil Breakdown

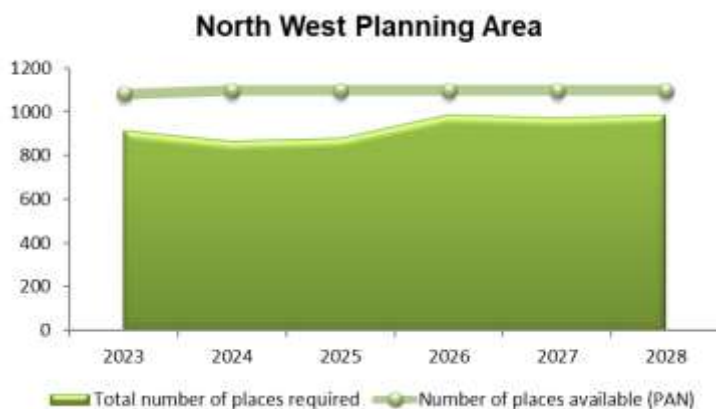


Key Statistics

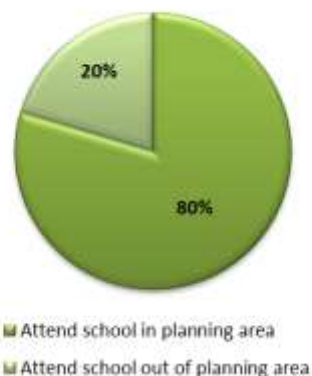
- ❖ 10996 school pupils reside in this area (excluding post-16)
- ❖ 11 infant schools
- ❖ 5 junior schools
- ❖ 11 primary schools
- ❖ 3 secondary schools

Primary Sector

North West Planning Area: Reception year						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	1082	1097	1097	1097	1097	1097
Total number of places required for Year R	917	866	882	988	977	987
Balance of Places	165	231	215	109	120	110

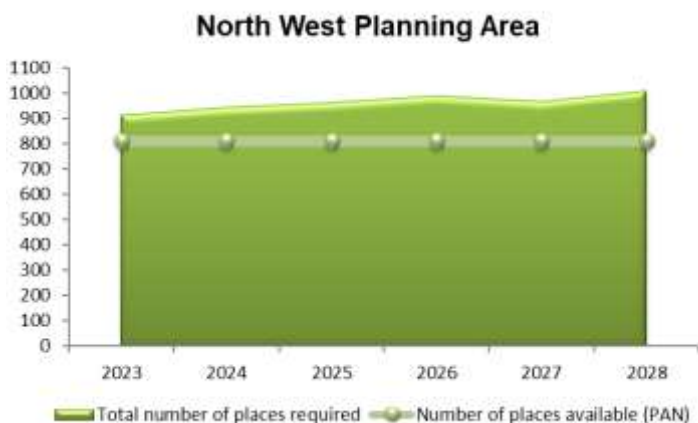


Resident primary pupils attending school in area

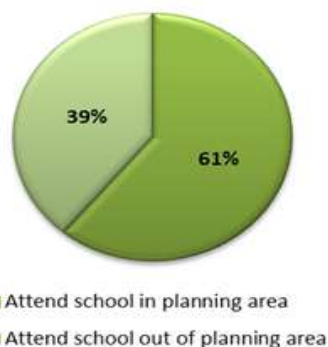


Secondary Sector

North West Planning Area: Year 7						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	810	810	810	810	810	810
Total number of places required for Year 7	910	940	961	989	965	1008
Balance of Places	-100	-130	-151	-179	-155	-198



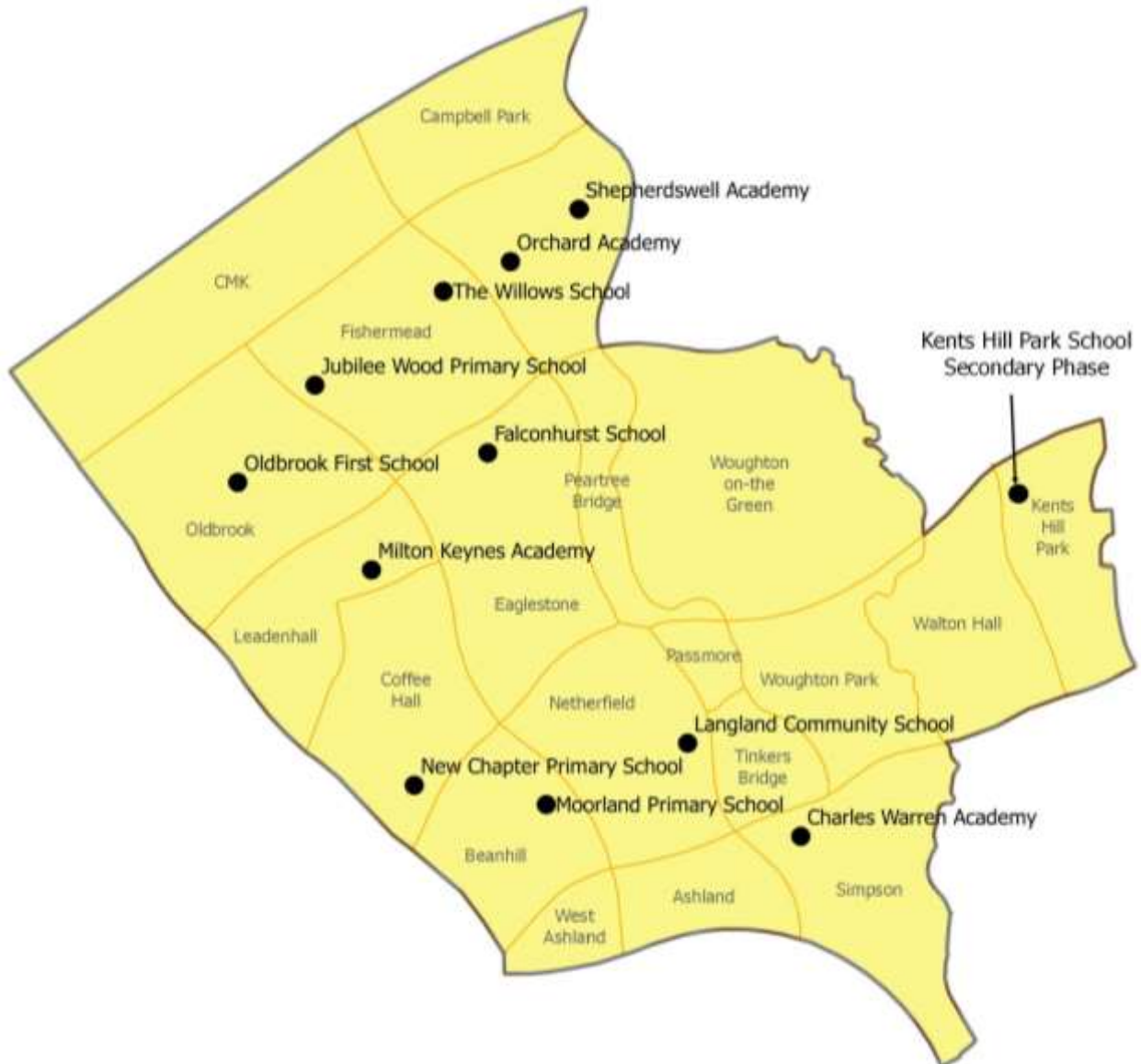
Resident secondary pupils attending school in area



Key points

- ❖ **Western Expansion Area** – a development of up to 6,600 dwellings is currently underway and set to continue beyond 2030. Two primary schools (Whitehouse and Fairfields) and the secondary school (Watling Academy) are already open. 6FE of the new secondary school opened in 2020 with the remainder to be opened gradually in line with demand. A third primary school, Watling Primary School, will open in September 2023 with one further primary school planned for the area still to be delivered.
- ❖ **Secondary provision** – there is a projected need for additional secondary school places in the area, however in 2022 not all the places available were allocated for children starting Year 7, as some parents chose to access provision in other planning areas. This position will continue to be monitored in partnership with the sector.

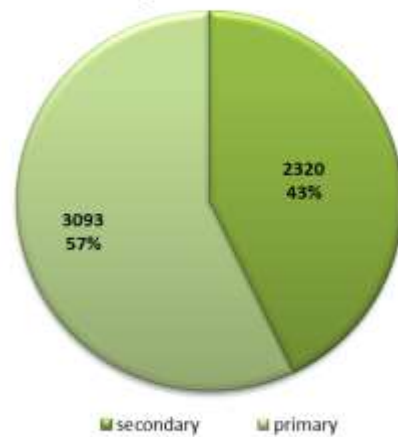
Central Planning Area



Key Statistics

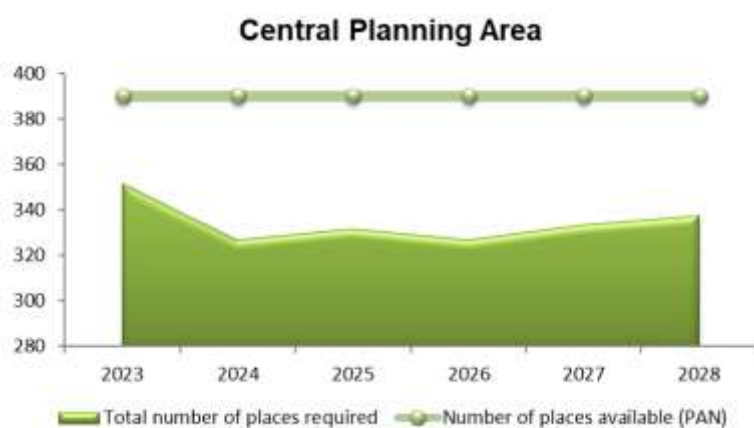
- ❖ 5413 school pupils reside in this area (excluding post-16)
- ❖ 3 infant schools
- ❖ 1 junior school
- ❖ 6 primary schools
- ❖ 2 secondary schools

Pupil Breakdown

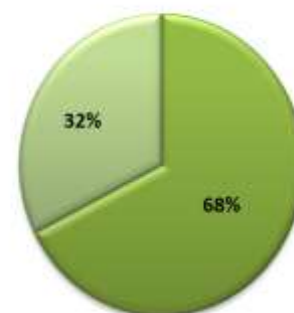


Primary Sector

Central Planning Area: Reception year						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	390	390	390	390	390	390
Total number of places required for Year R	352	327	332	327	334	338
Balance of Places	38	63	58	63	56	52



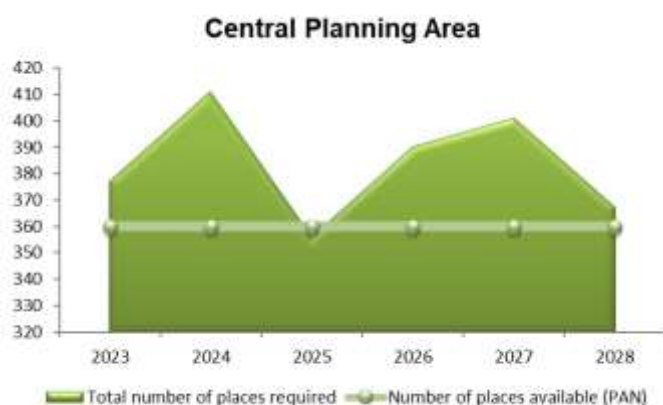
Resident primary pupils attending school in area



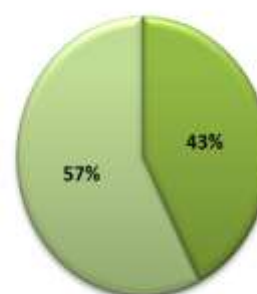
Attend school in planning area
Attend school out of planning area

Secondary Sector

Central Planning Area: Year 7						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	360	360	360	360	360	360
Total number of places required for Year 7	377	411	356	390	401	367
Balance of Places	-17	-51	4	-30	-41	-7



Resident secondary pupils attending school in area

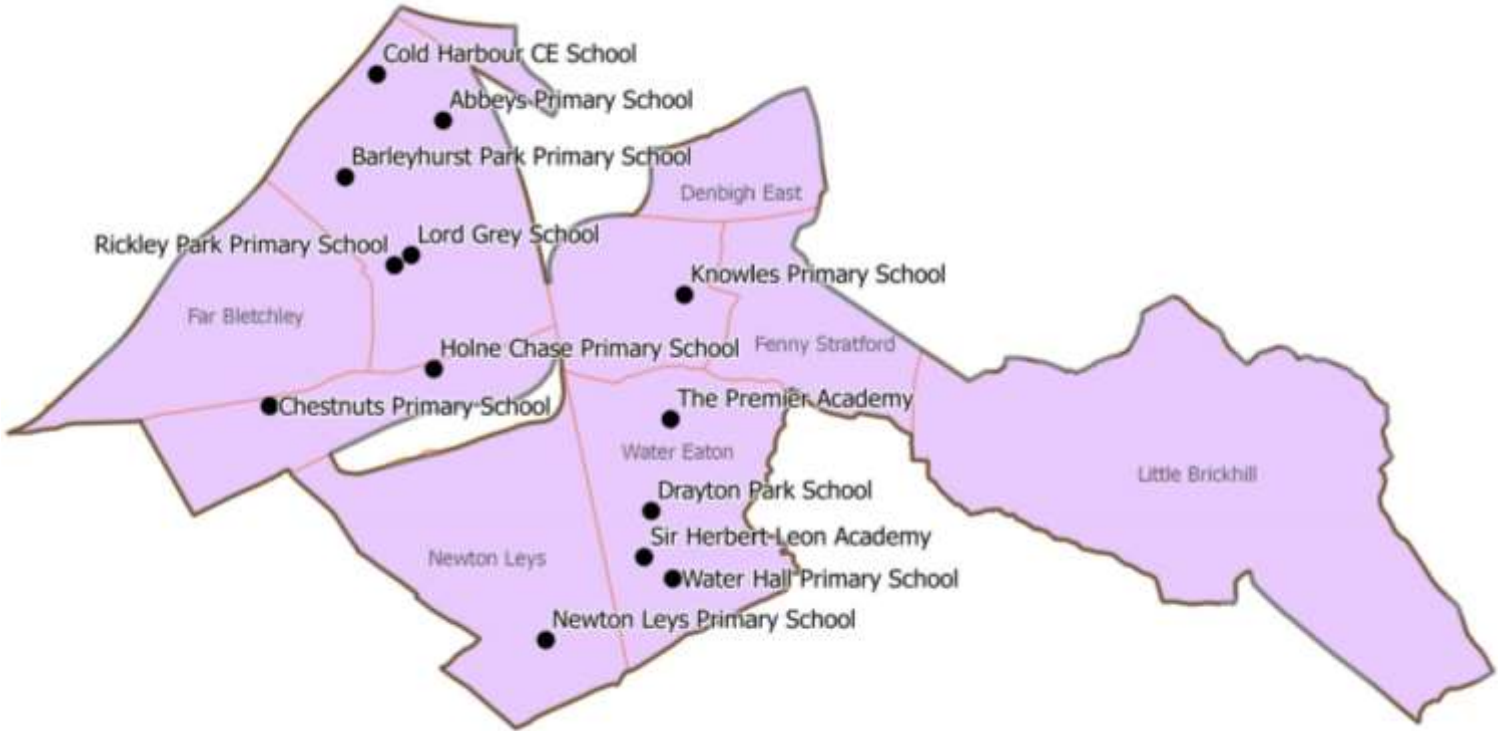


Attend school in planning area
Attend school out of planning area

Key points

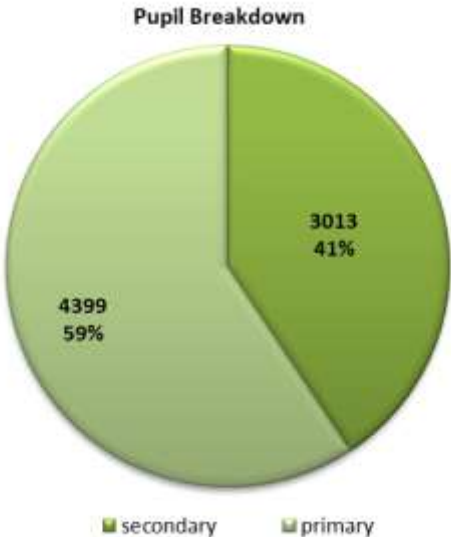
- ❖ **Central Milton Keynes and Campbell Park** – over 5,000 dwellings projected to be delivered over the next ten years. The majority of these dwellings are likely to be low pupil yield properties; therefore, it is possible that additional demand can be accommodated within existing local schools. The position will continue to be monitored
- ❖ **Secondary provision** – there is a projected need for additional secondary school places in the area, however in 2022 not all the places available were allocated for children starting Year 7, as some parents chose to access provision in other planning areas. This position will continue to be monitored in partnership with the sector.

South Planning Area



Key Statistics

- ❖ **7412** school pupils reside in this area (excluding post-16)
- ❖ **11** primary schools
- ❖ **2** secondary schools

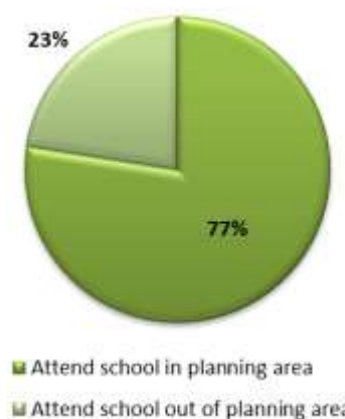


Primary Sector

South Planning Area: Reception year						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	585	585	585	585	585	585
Total number of places required for Year R	607	591	605	592	591	557
Balance of Places	-22	-6	-20	-7	-6	28

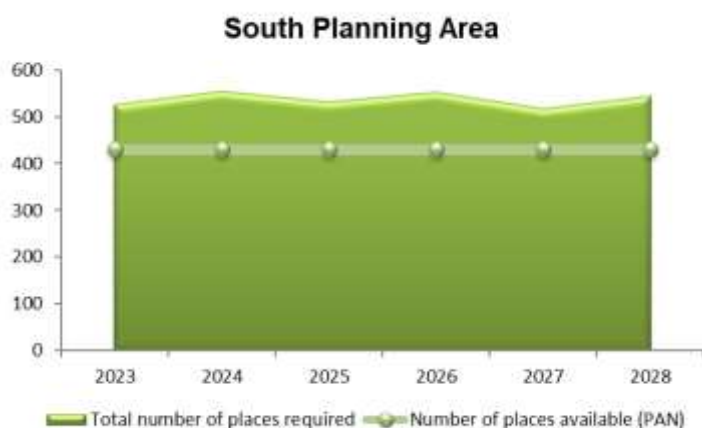


Resident primary pupils attending school in area

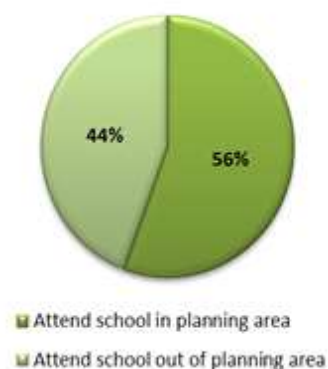


Secondary Sector

South Planning Area: Year 7						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	430	430	430	430	430	430
Total number of places required for Year 7	527	555	532	554	517	545
Balance of Places	-97	-125	-102	-124	-87	-115



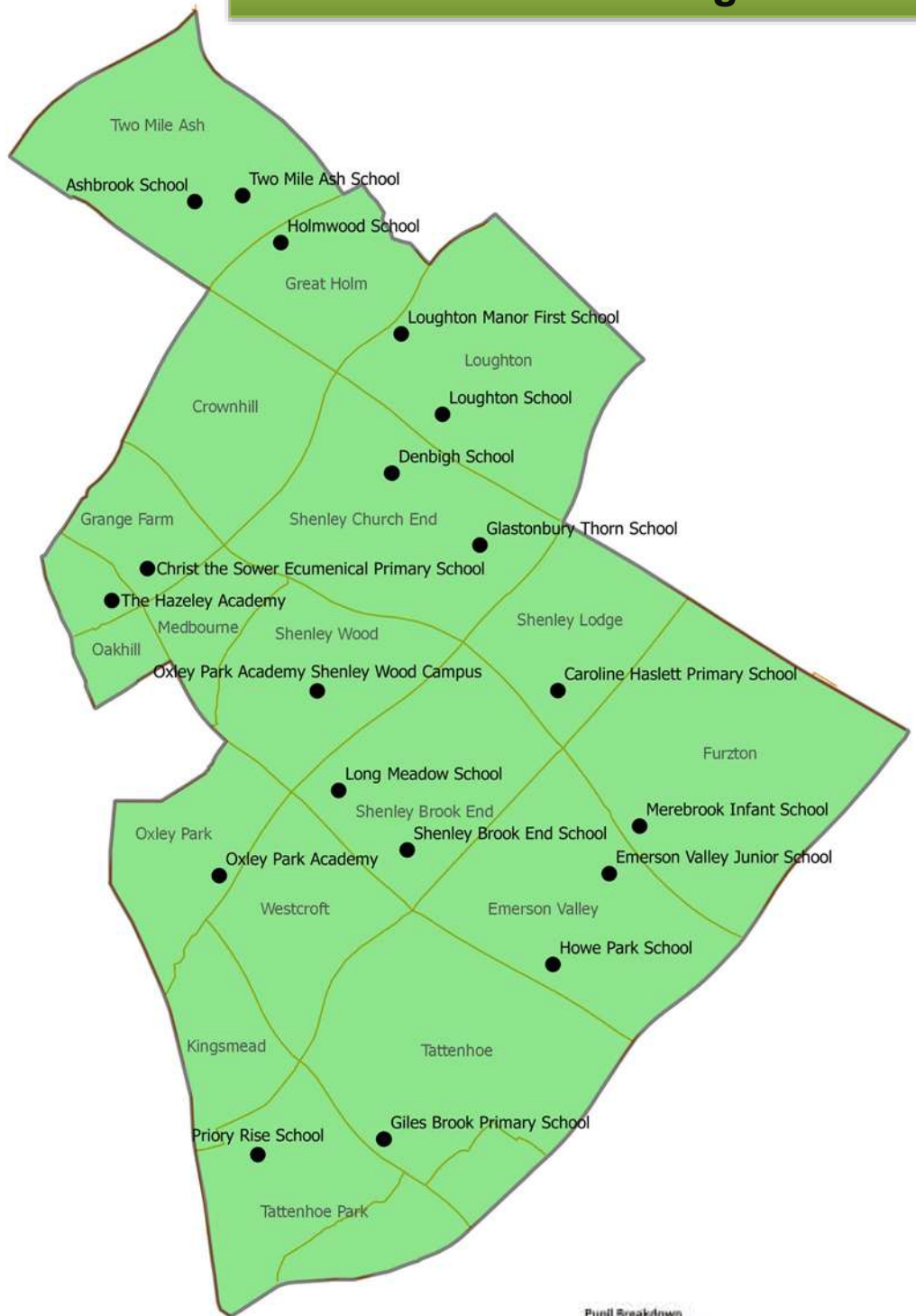
Resident secondary pupils attending school in area



Future developments

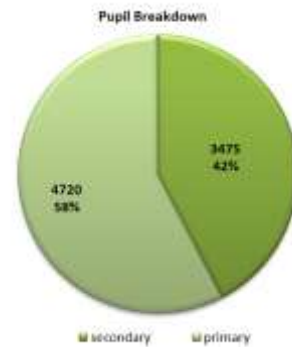
- ❖ **Eaton Leys** – Development underway for up to 600 dwellings, site secured within the development for 1FE primary school. Development currently scheduled for completion financial year 26/27.
- ❖ **Primary and Secondary provision** – there is a projected need for additional primary and secondary school places in the area, however in 2022 not all the places available were allocated for children starting Year R and Year 7, as some parents chose to access provision in other planning areas. This position will continue to be monitored in partnership with the sector.

South West Planning Area



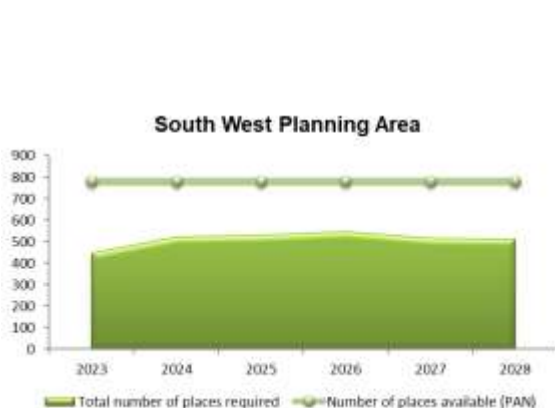
Key Statistics

- ❖ **8195** school pupils reside in this area (excluding post-16)
- ❖ **6** infant schools
- ❖ **3** junior schools
- ❖ **6** primary schools
- ❖ **3** secondary schools

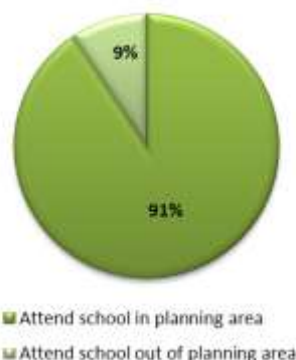


Primary Sector

South West Planning Area: Reception year						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	780	780	780	780	780	780
Total number of places required for Year R	446	521	528	547	515	511
Balance of Places	334	259	252	233	265	269

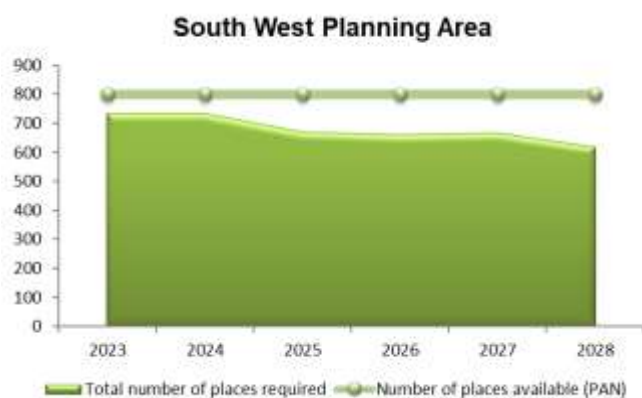


Resident primary pupils attending school in area

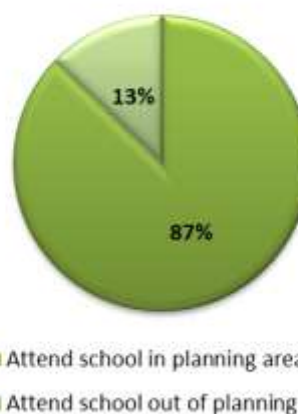


Secondary Sector

South West Planning Area: Year 7						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	800	800	800	800	800	800
Total number of places required for Year 7	734	733	668	661	666	616
Balance of Places	66	67	132	139	134	184



Resident secondary pupils attending school in area



Future developments

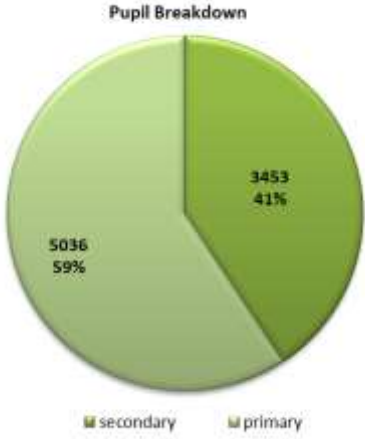
- ❖ No new major planned growth identified for this area at present

South East Planning Area



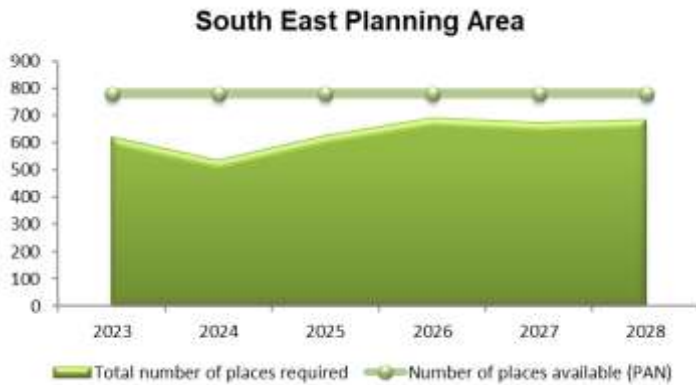
Key Statistics

- ❖ **8489** school pupils reside in this area (excluding post-16)
- ❖ 2 infant schools
- ❖ 1 junior schools
- ❖ 7 primary schools
- ❖ 1 secondary school
- ❖ 2 all-through school



Primary Sector

South East Planning Area: Reception year						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	780	780	780	780	780	780
Total number of places required for Year R	626	539	628	693	677	686
Balance of Places	154	241	152	87	103	94



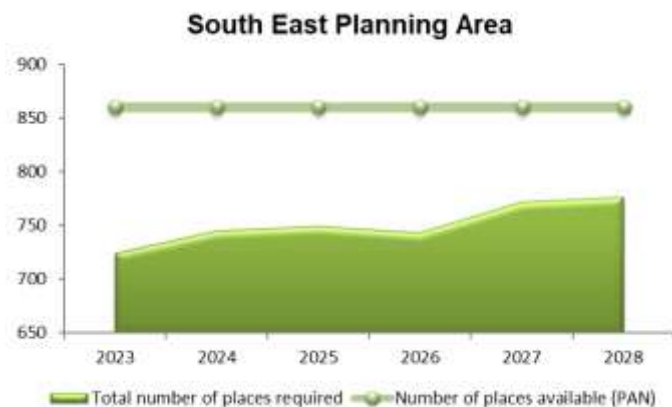
Resident primary pupils attending school in area



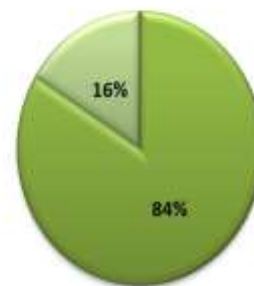
Attend school in planning area
Attend school out of planning area

Secondary Sector

South East Planning Area: Year 7						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	860	860	860	860	860	860
Total number of places required for Year 7	724	745	749	743	772	776
Balance of Places	136	115	111	117	88	84



Resident secondary pupils attending school in area

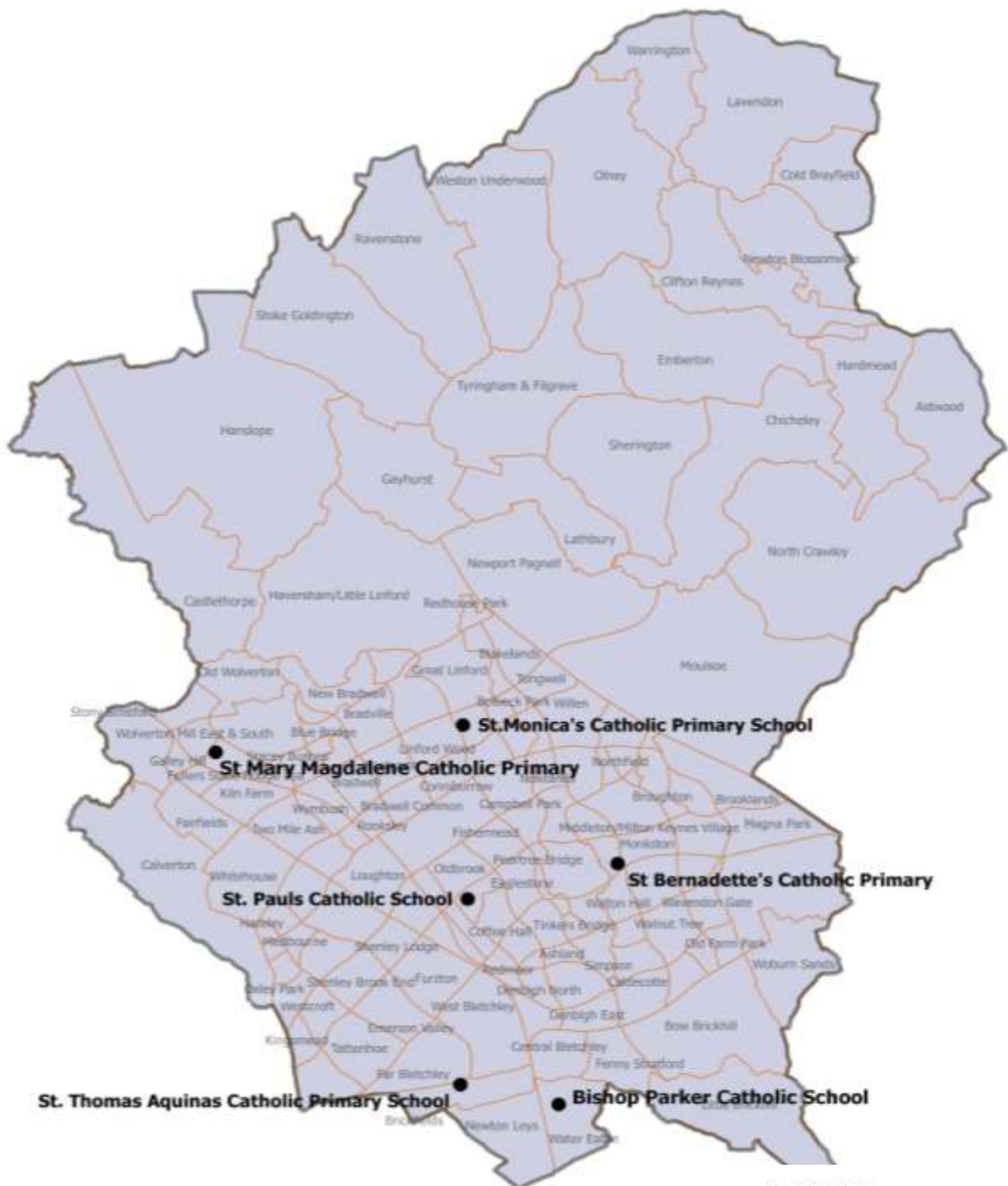


Attend school in planning area
Attend school out of planning area

Future developments

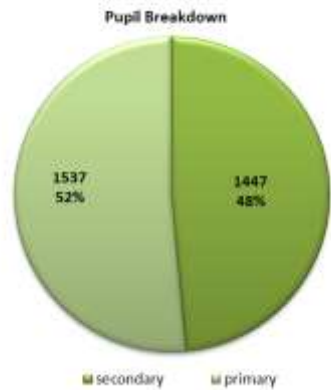
- ❖ **Strategic Land Allocation** – this new development is currently underway and will deliver up to 2,750 dwellings when complete. Glebe Farm (an all-through school opened in 2023 with capacity for up to 3FE in the primary phase and up to 6FE in the secondary phase).
- ❖ **South East Milton Keynes** – this area has been identified for a new development of up to 3,000 dwellings. Two 3FE primary school sites and a 7FE secondary school site have been identified within this development.

Catholic Provision



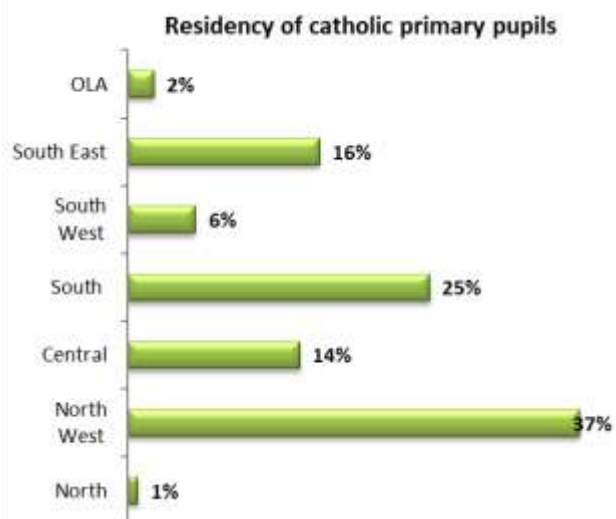
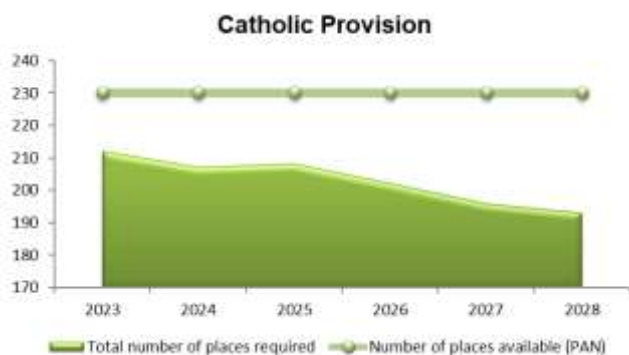
Key Statistics

- ❖ 2984 children attend Catholic provision (excluding post-16)
- ❖ 5 primary schools
- ❖ 1 secondary school



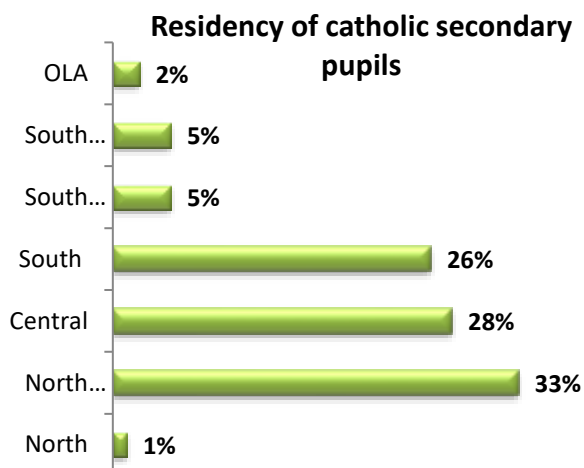
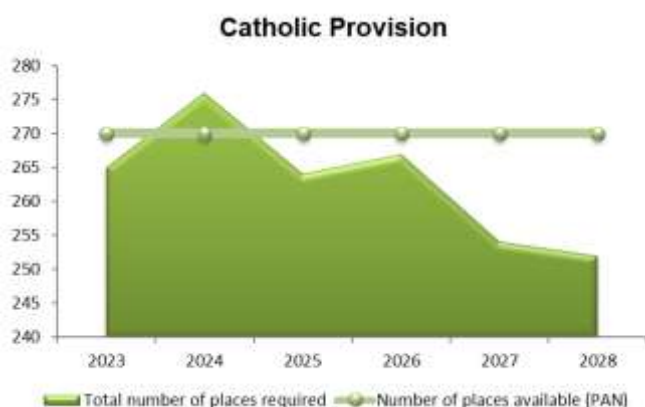
Primary Sector

Catholic Planning area: Reception year						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	230	230	230	230	230	230
Total number of places required for Year R	212	207	200	202	196	193
Balance of Places	18	23	30	28	34	37



Secondary Sector

Catholic Planning Area: Year 7						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	270	270	270	270	270	270
Projected Demand for places	265	276	264	267	254	252
Balance of Demand	5	-6	6	3	16	18

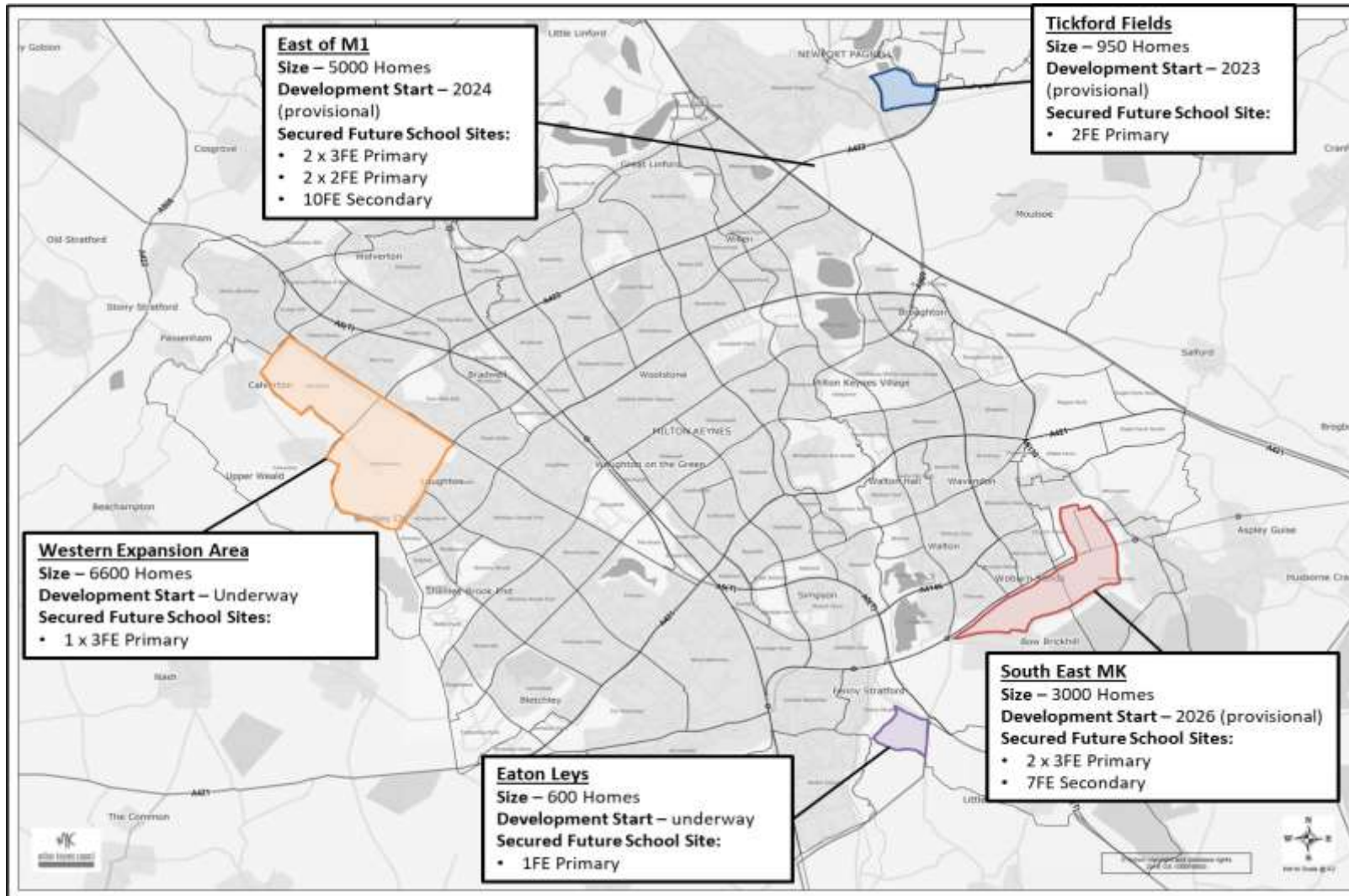


Future developments

- ❖ No new major planned growth identified for this area at present

Summary of future development

Please note – any new schools which have already been awarded are not included within this map.



Annex A: School place planning methodology

In order that the council can meet its statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places are available for children in the borough, the balance of places is assessed for the admission entry points for primary (Year R), junior (Year 3) and secondary (Year 7). This identifies where there are pressures and where there are surplus places.

To identify the balance of places, the current supply is considered against the projected demand for places, which takes into account the demand from the existing demographic as well as the projected demand from new housing. The way the demand is projected is different for Year R, Year 3 and Year 7. These are detailed below in *Primary Planning*, *Junior Planning* and *Secondary Planning*.

As the Published Admission Number (PAN) is the legal number of places up to which a school must admit, this number is considered to represent the number of places available. The current supply of places is not considered as the 'net capacity' of a school, which is a government determined formula used to calculate the capacity of a building based on the amount of teaching space considered available. Although the net capacity can be used to inform the Planned Admission Number (PAN), the two figures are not directly related and a PAN can often be higher or lower than the net capacity of a school.

Planning for the impact of new housing

Any new housing is considered to generate additional pressure on the demand for school places, and as such is factored into the forecast demand. The number of pupils generated from new housing developments is based on a pupil-product-ratio survey completed by Cognisant Research in August 2017, as shown in the table below:

Child Age	Age 0	Age 1	Age 2	Age 3	Age 4	Age 5	Age 6	Age 7	Age 8	Age 9	Age 10	Age 11	Age 12	Age 13	Age 14	Age 15
Yield Ratio	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02

Figure F1: Extract adapted from *Cognisant Research: Pupil Product Ratio Study – Milton Keynes Council 2017*

To determine the number of new children estimated to arise from new housing; the number of new homes is multiplied by the relevant yield rate. For example, 100 houses are estimated to yield 6 Reception (age 4) pupils on average. The delivery rate of the housing schedule is moderated based on the average completion rate of the previous 3 years.

Access to the full [pupil yield survey can be found here](#).

School provision for new housing is planned in two ways. Large developments, which may include multiple smaller developments, over a total of 2,500 homes, are usually planned for independently. Such developments include the Western Expansion Area, the Strategic Land Allocation, East of M1 & South East MK development. For these developments, primary and secondary provision will usually be identified and commissioned exclusively for that development.

Developments that are not as large are planned for within the existing provision of Milton Keynes. This means that the anticipated pupil yield from new housing is considered in addition to the anticipated pressure from birth rates or pupils already within the school system.

Where possible the intention is for young people who move into these new houses to be served by existing provision, which may need to be expanded to meet new demand, either on the existing site or on a separate campus site. Where the existing provision is unable to meet the anticipated new demand, a new provision will be established.

Primary place planning

Live birth data (published annually by the Office of National Statistics) is used as a base for forecasting the number of children due to start school in the corresponding year. A retention rate is applied to the birth data to reflect the proportion of children born who will subsequently start at a Milton Keynes school. Figure F2 shows that on average the retention figure is 85.7%. This takes into account various factors that have applied in the period between the birth of the children and the corresponding Year R intake. These include families that have moved away or moved into the area, children on roll in Milton Keynes mainstream schools but living in other local authority areas, children living in Milton Keynes but attending schools in other local authority areas, and children who enrol in other provision such as special schools, the private education sector and other alternative settings.

Year	ONS Births (Sept to Aug)	Year R intake (Oct school census)	Intake less projected demand from new housing	Relationship
2020	3716 (born 2015-16)	3563	3130	84.2%
2021	3536 (born 2016-17)	3539	3044	86.0%
2022	3522 (born 2017-18)	3618	3179	87.0%

Figure F2: Birth data comparison to actual Year R intake

Projected demand arising from new housing is calculated separately; this is because development in Milton Keynes is significant and can vary substantially with the economic climate. The projected demand from new housing is calculated by, identifying the percentage split of each catchment in relation to the total annual completions and then applying these to the 3 year average completion trend. The projected number of additional children for each Year R intake is then added to the adjusted birth data referred to above.

Where it is not yet available from ONS, birth projections for future years are generated using periodic ONS birth data trends. The borough wide demand for Year R places is therefore as follows:

Milton Keynes Overview: Reception year						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Number of places available (PAN)	4250	4265	4265	4265	4265	4265
Births	3300	3185	3269	3413	3439	3504
Births + Housing Demand @ retention rate	3381	3223	3345	3502	3493	3516
Demand expected from new houses	508	489	475	501	463	429
Contingency	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of places required for Year R	3381	3223	3345	3502	3493	3516
Balance of Places	869	1042	920	763	772	749

Figure F3: Impact of projected demand for Year R places (assuming no change in supply)

Junior place planning

Junior place planning uses the data from October 2022 census as a foundation layer for projecting demand at the infant to junior transition point in Year 3. For Year 3 projections relating to cohorts not currently on roll, we use our reception year projections generated through our primary place planning. Further growth to a cohort may arise through new housing in the area; therefore, each subsequent annual projection will factor in the impact from new housing in the area. By applying the weighted pupil yields in Figure F1 to the corresponding NCY, we are able to project additional pupils expected from a new development.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of places available (PAN)	1284	1329	1329
Total number of places required for Year 3	1070	1023	1006
Balance of Places	214	306	323

Figure F4: Impact of projected demand for Year 3 places (assuming no change in supply)

Secondary place planning

In order to project the future demand for secondary places a similar 'retention rate' is generated by comparing the number of children on roll in Year 6 in the May School Census against the number of children attending a Milton Keynes mainstream secondary school in the October School Census of the same year. Over the previous three years the relationship between children who transfer from Year 6 into Year 7 had remained consistent at circa 95%, however, in 2021 the ratio increased to 97%, in 2022 the ratio is 95%. This takes into account various factors, including children on roll in Milton Keynes mainstream schools but living in other local authority areas, children living in Milton Keynes but attending schools in other local authority areas and children who enrol in other provision such as special schools, the private education sector and other alternative settings.

To forecast demand beyond the current Year 6, the additional demand which will arise from new housing development in future years must be accounted for. Whilst the impact from new housing will eventually affect all year groups, our analysis shows that pupil yield is initially higher in the younger year groups than it is in the older year groups.

By applying the weighted pupil yield figures set out in Figure F1 to the adjusted housing schedule projections from developers, we can estimate the potential number of additional pupils in each year group per year. In addition, the methodology also includes a layer to include children that may attend MK schools from another local authority

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
PAN	3890	3890	3890	3890	3890	3890	3890
Year 6/7 transfer	3851	3892	3658	3685	3587	3524	3420
Yield from New Housing	52	102	166	237	301	360	427
Out of county children	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
Total Demand	3936	4026	3856	3954	3920	3916	3879
Balance of Places	-46	-136	34	-64	-30	-26	11

Surplus / deficit (%)	-1.2%	-3.5%	0.9%	-1.7%	-0.8%	-0.7%	0.3%
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Figure F6: Impact of projected demand for Year 7 places (assuming no change in supply)

Catholic provision

Within Milton Keynes there are five Voluntary Aided Catholic primary schools which seek, through their admissions oversubscription criteria, to provide education for Catholic families and those that desire a Catholic education. Attendees at these schools come from across the borough and therefore a separate demand figure is required to consider the impact of this provision at secondary level. This is not necessary for children moving on from Church of England primary schools since there is no Church of England secondary school.

A review of the historic oversubscription criterion point that the last pupil was offered a place at each of the Catholic schools in the coordinated admissions process demonstrates that more people than classified as 'Catholics practicing their religion' are accessing this provision. There is an ongoing dialogue with the Catholic diocese to consider the future needs of this provision, however there are no changes currently proposed.

Therefore, to plan for the wider impact of Catholic provision on other schools in the locality, the PAN is considered to remain constant and a percentage rate of people accessing each Catholic provision per planning area is calculated based on the current attendance trends. Future demand is adjusted proportionately across each planning area to account for the growing population.

Annex B: Birth data

In 2010/11 academic year, the birth rate in Milton Keynes peaked with 3979 births recorded by the Office of National Statistics (ONS). However, over the subsequent years the birth rate has reflected the downward trend experienced nationally with Milton Keynes experiencing a fall in births. In total, since 2010/11 Milton Keynes has experienced a 16.9% fall in births, as ONS birth data recorded only 3212 births in the 2019/20 academic year. This is a reduction of over 25FE which will eventually feed through to the primary and secondary sectors. However, in 2020/21, Milton Keynes saw a small increase in the number of births (3%).

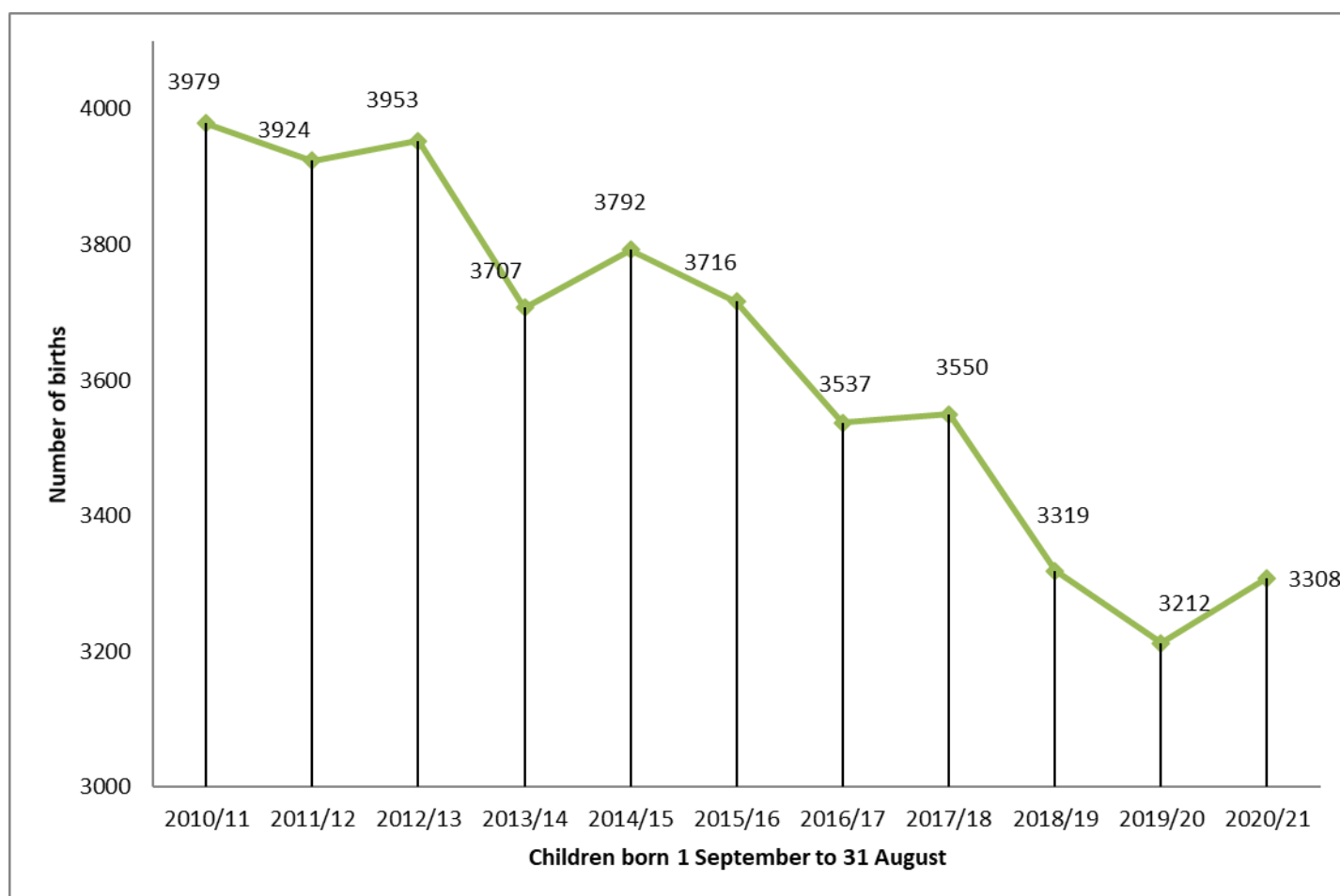


Figure B1: Births for Milton Keynes 2010/11 to 2020/21. Source: ONS Birth Data

Annex C: Types of schools

There are currently 114 schools in Milton Keynes. This number can change in line with the way schools are organised, for example, schools may be amalgamated, new schools opened or schools can be closed.

All schools in Milton Keynes are co-educational, that is, admitting both boys and girls. There is a range of all categories including community, voluntary aided, voluntary controlled, foundation and academy schools. All schools in Milton Keynes are non-selective. The council continues to oppose any form of academic selection in Milton Keynes.

	Community	Voluntary Controlled	Voluntary Aided	Foundation	Academy
Nursery	2	0	0	0	0
All Through	0	0	0	0	3
Primary	19	2	6	4	20
Infant	13	5	0	3	6
Junior	3	0	0	3	5
Secondary	0	0	1	1	10
Special	5	0	0	0	1
Alternative	0	0	0	0	2
Total	42	7	7	11	47
As %	37%	6%	6%	10%	41%

Figure C1: Schools by category and phase, January 2023

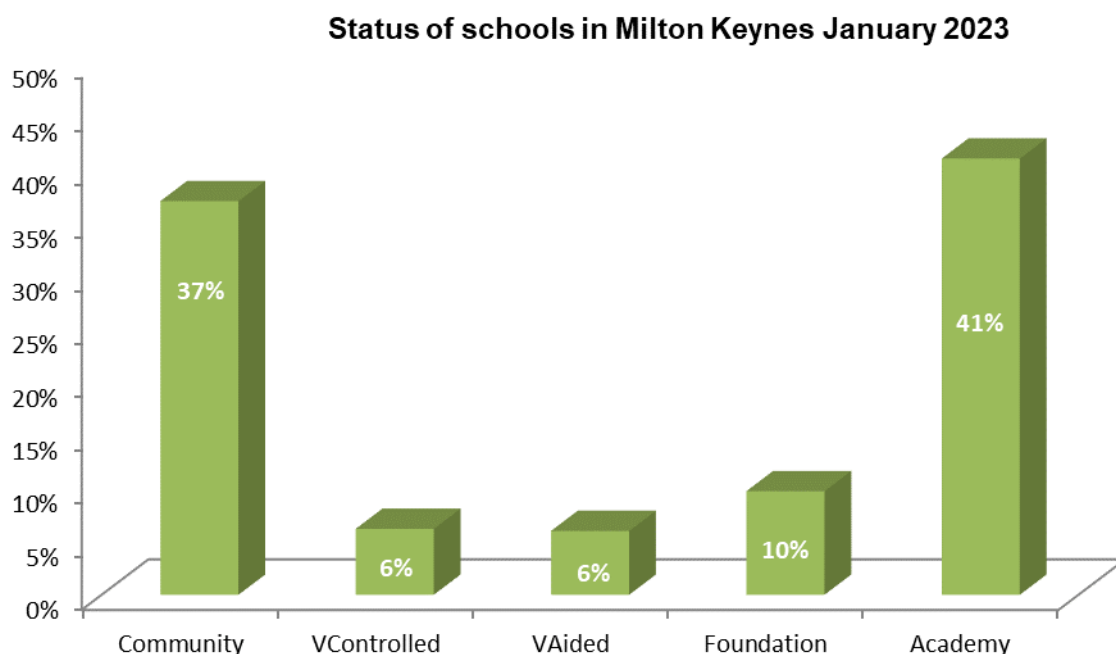


Figure C2: Status of schools in Milton Keynes, January 2023

Annex D: Post 16 provision

The majority of secondary schools in Milton Keynes have post 16 provision. Demand is likely to increase as the number of pupils in the secondary sector grows. However, the reduction currently being felt in the primary sector will feed through to the post 16 sector in time.

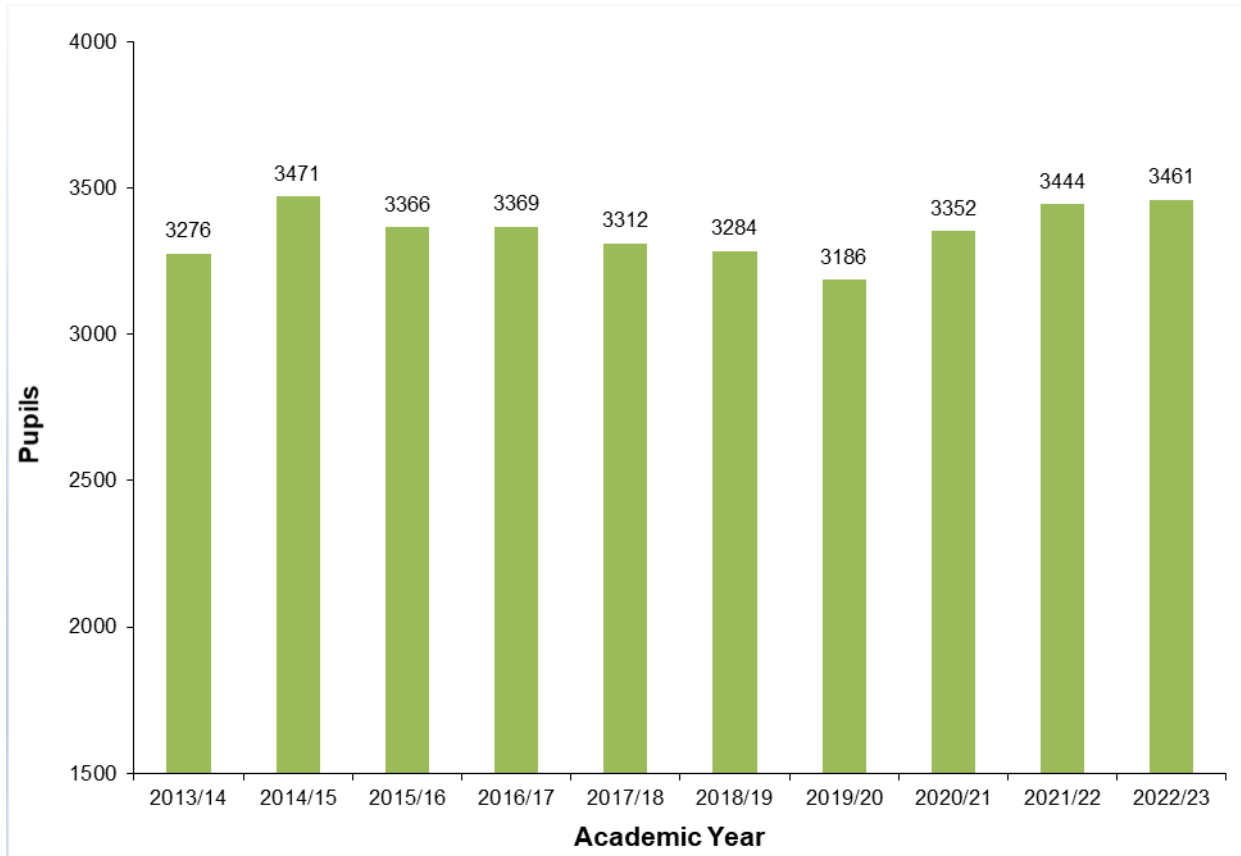


Figure D1: Post 16 pupils in mainstream provision only (excludes pupils attending special schools and alternative provision).
Source: School Census October 2022

Annex E: Diversity of population

Milton Keynes has a rich and growing diverse population. 62% of pupils of primary age are BME, compared to 38% of those of secondary school age.

	Primary	Secondary	Total
White British	12897(51%)	9268(54%)	22165(52%)
Other Ethnic Groups	12520 (49%)	7792(46%)	20312(48%)
Total	25417	17060	42477

Figure D1: Ethnicity of Milton Keynes pupils by phase of education, January 2022 School Census (YR to Y11 only)

Ethnic Group	2018		2022		Difference No. of pupils	% Growth Difference
	No. of pupils	% of Total	No. of pupils	% of Total		
Asian: Indian	1684	3.98%	2370	5.25%	686	40.74%
Asian: Pakistani	1311	3.10%	1555	3.44%	244	18.61%
Asian: Bangladeshi	665	1.57%	623	1.38%	-42	-6.32%
Asian: Other	1320	3.12%	1533	3.39%	213	16.14%
Black African	4666	11.03%	4913	10.88%	247	5.29%
Black Caribbean	337	0.80%	370	0.82%	33	9.79%
Black Other	728	1.72%	679	1.50%	-49	-6.73%
Chinese	211	0.50%	575	1.27%	364	172.51%
White British	23722	56.05%	22480	49.77%	-1242	-5.24%
White Other	3257	7.70%	4235	9.38%	978	30.03%
Mixed	3418	8.08%	4152	9.19%	734	21.47%
Any Other Group	364	0.86%	507	1.12%	143	39.29%
Unknown	637	1.51%	1179	2.61%	542	85.09%
Total	42320		45171		2489	5.88%

Figure D2: Pupils on roll by ethnic groups, January 2018 & 2022 School Census (YR to Y11 only)

Comparing the statistics between 2018 and 2022, Milton Keynes has seen an 20% growth in BAME pupil numbers. The most significant growth has been the 'Chinese cohort which has grown by 172.51% (364 extra pupils). White British pupils have experienced a -5% decrease (1242 less pupils) compared to the number of pupils recorded in January 2018.

Annex F: School preferences

Despite significant expansion in the size of the population, a high percentage of Milton Keynes' young people receive a place at one of their preference schools.

For children starting school for the first time at Year R, in September 2022, 99% were offered a place at one of their preference schools and 94% were offered their first preference. This is higher than the national average of 92%.

For children starting secondary school in September 2022, 94% were offered a place at one of their preference schools and 80% were offered their first preference. This is lower than the national average of 83% and illustrates the pressure for places in the system.

Parental choice and local geography is such that Milton Keynes experiences significant levels of cross-border movement, both in and out of the borough. In total, there are 2164 children and young people educated outside of the borough.

Phase	Bedford	Bucks	Central Beds	Northants	Other	Total
Primary	11	230	322	138	14	715
Secondary	19	805	355	219	20	1418
Special	0	8	11	3	9	31
Total	30	1043	688	360	43	2164

Figure E1: Pupils that live in Milton Keynes and attend other local authority schools (excluding post 16 and nursery classes). Source: DfE National Statistics 2022

Should these pupils choose to be educated within the borough, the total pupil population in Milton Keynes would increase by 4.7%; this percentage is in line with 5% in 2021 and 2020 and 4.8% in 2019 (excluding the number of pupils attending special schools).

In contrast, the number of children living outside Milton Keynes but educated in Milton Keynes schools is 803 thus making Milton Keynes a net exporter of pupils.

Phase	Bedford	Bucks	Central Beds	Northants	Other	Total
Primary	27	199	55	161	54	496
Secondary	12	84	51	82	24	253
Special	2	20	4	19	9	54
Total	41	303	110	261	87	803

Figure E2: Pupils who attend schools in Milton Keynes and live in other local authorities (excluding post 16 and nursery classes). Source: DfE National Statistics 2022

If these pupils were not educated in Milton Keynes schools, the total Milton Keynes school population would decrease by approximately 1.7% (excluding the number of pupils attending special schools). This percentage is in line with 1.7% in 2021 and 1.5% in 2020.

Annex G: All Schools in Milton Keynes

Mainstream Schools in Milton Keynes

Planning area	School	Phase	Type of school
North	Ousedale School	Secondary	Academy
	Cedars Primary School	Primary	Community
	Green Park School	Primary	Foundation
	Lavendon School	Primary	Community
	Newton Blossomville C of E School	Infant	Voluntary Controlled
	North Crawley C of E School	Infant	Voluntary Controlled
	Olney Infant Academy	Infant	Academy
	Olney Middle School	Junior	Academy
	Portfields Primary School	Primary	Foundation
	Sherington C of E School	Infant	Voluntary Controlled
	Stoke Goldington C of E First School	Infant	Voluntary Controlled
	Tickford Park Primary School	Primary	Foundation
	North West	Stantonbury International School	Secondary
The Radcliffe School		Secondary	Foundation
Watling Academy		Secondary	Academy
Bradwell Village School		Junior	Community
Brooksward School		Primary	Foundation
Bushfield School		Junior	Foundation
Castlethorpe First School		Infant	Community
Downs Barn School		Infant	Community
Fairfields Primary School		Primary	Academy
Germander Park School		Infant	Foundation
Giffard Park Primary School		Primary	Community
Great Linford Primary School		Primary	Community
Greenleys First School		Infant	Community
Greenleys Junior School		Junior	Community
Hanslope Primary School		Primary	Community
Haversham Village School		Primary	Community
Heelands School		Infant	Community
New Bradwell School		Primary	Academy
Pepper Hill School		Infant	Community
Priory Common School		Infant	Community
Russell Street School		Infant	Community
Southwood School		Junior	Foundation
St Andrew's C of E Infant School		Infant	Voluntary Controlled
St Mary & St Giles C of E Aided School		Primary	Academy
Stanton School		Junior	Foundation
Summerfield School		Primary	Community
Watling Primary School (opening September 2023)		Primary	Academy
Whitehouse Primary School		Primary	Academy
Willen Primary School		Primary	Community
Wood End First School		Infant	Community
Wyvern School		Infant	Foundation

Planning area	School	Phase	Type of school
Central	Milton Keynes Academy	Secondary	Academy
	Kents Hill Park School	All through	Academy
	Charles Warren Academy	Primary	Academy
	Falconhurst School	Primary	Community
	Jubilee Wood Primary School	Primary	Academy
	Langland School	Primary	Academy
	Moorland Primary School	Primary	Academy
	New Chapter Primary School	Primary	Academy
	Oldbrook First School	Infant	Community
	Orchard Academy	Junior	Academy
	Shepherdswell Academy	Infant	Academy
	The Willows School and Early Years Centre	Infant	Community
	South	Lord Grey Academy	Secondary
Sir Herbert Leon Academy		Secondary	Academy
Abbeys Primary School		Primary	Community
Barleyhurst Park Primary School		Primary	Community
Chestnuts Primary School		Primary	Academy
Cold Harbour C of E School		Primary	Voluntary Controlled
Drayton Park School		Primary	Community
Holne Chase Primary School		Primary	Academy
Knowles Primary School		Primary	Academy
Newton Leys Primary School		Primary	Community
Rickley Park Primary School		Primary	Academy
The Premier Academy		Primary	Academy
Water Hall Primary School		Primary	Academy
South West	Denbigh School	Secondary	Academy
	Shenley Brook End School	Secondary	Academy
	The Hazeley Academy	Secondary	Academy
	Ashbrook School	Infant	Academy
	Caroline Haslett Primary School	Primary	Community
	Christ The Sower Ecumenical Primary School	Primary	Academy
	Emerson Valley Junior School	Junior	Community
	Giles Brook Primary School	Primary	Community
	Glastonbury Thorn School	Infant	Foundation
	Holmwood School	Infant	Academy
	Howe Park School	Infant	Community
	Long Meadow School	Primary	Community
	Loughton Manor First School	Infant	Community
	Loughton School	Junior	Academy
	Merebrook Infant School	Infant	Community
	Oxley Park Academy	Primary	Academy
	Priory Rise School	Primary	Academy
Two Mile Ash School	Junior	Academy	

Planning area	School	Phase	Type of school
South East	Glebe Farm School	All through	Academy
	Oakgrove School	All through	Academy
	Walton High	Secondary	Academy
	Bow Brickhill C of E Primary School	Primary	Voluntary Aided
	Brooklands Farm Primary School	Primary	Community
	Broughton Fields Primary School	Primary	Community
	Heronsgate School	Junior	Academy
	Heronshaw School	Infant	Academy
	Kents Hill School	Infant	Academy
	Middleton Primary School	Primary	Academy
	Monkston Primary School	Primary	Academy
	St Mary's Wavendon C of E Primary School	Primary	Voluntary Controlled
	Wavendon Gate School	Primary	Community
	Catholic Provision	St Paul's Catholic School	Secondary
Bishop Parker Catholic School		Primary	Voluntary Aided
St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School		Primary	Voluntary Aided
St Mary Magdalene Catholic Primary School		Primary	Voluntary Aided
St Monica's Catholic Primary School		Primary	Voluntary Aided
St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Primary School		Primary	Voluntary Aided

Special Schools in Milton Keynes

School	Phase	Type of school
The Redway School	All through	Community
Slated Row School	All through	Community
The Walnuts School	All through	Community
Romans Field School	Year 1 to Year 6	Community
Stephenson Academy	Year 6 to Year 14	Academy
White Spire School	Year 1 to Year 14	Community

Alternative Provision in Milton Keynes

School	Phase	Type of school
Bridge Academy	Secondary	Academy
Milton Keynes Primary Pupil Referral Unit	Primary	Academy

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